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The TTC's (mis)communication problem metronews

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CITY HALL

Security hid Ford's substance abuse: report

As Toronto mayor, Rob Ford was allowed to turn city security officers into private bodyguards, and at least one of them helped hide his substance abuse, a bombshell city ombudsman report is expected to say.

Two sources with knowledge of Fiona Crean's probe of city security conduct, to be released Thursday, say an officer placed a hand over a CCTV camera to keep it from recording Ford staggering through city hall during a bout of alcohol or drug abuse.

Crean will also describe chaotic public scenes in which actions — or non-actions — by security officials threatened the safety of media, politicians, city staff and members of the public, the sources say.

Crean's report highlights serious questions about the oversight of corporate security by senior officials and ultimately city manager Joe Pennachetti. The report will be presented at next week's city council meeting, which will be Pennachetti's last before he retires. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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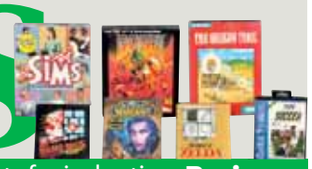

Video Game Hall of Fame names finalists for induction. **Business**

Earthquake leaves T.O. woman's heart 'broken'

Rashmi Thapa manages the Nepal Pari Nail Spa in Toronto. Below: This is what remains of the house where Rashmi Thapa was born and raised. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO; CONTRIBUTED

NEPAL

But word her family is safe brings relief

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

When a distant cousin called Monday evening from Kathmandu, Rashmi Thapa didn't know what to expect before picking up.

It was the most important news she could possibly have hoped for: Her parents in Gorkha Gaun village near the epicentre of Saturday's earthquake were safe.

"I was in heaven," said the excited Thapa, from her spa business in Toronto. "They have nothing left, but they are safe. I am so happy right now."

Like many Nepalese Canadians, she spent the past few days digging for any kind of news that could lead to the whereabouts of her family members back in Nepal.

She finally learned that her brother, who lives in the capital, has left to take care of her aging parents. Her father and mother are living in open fields with other lucky survivors, waiting for any kind of help.

She briefly spoke to her dad Tuesday morning, but the phone cut off before she could learn many details. Her mum is a bit sick due to the cold weather and staying outside, she said.

"I can't imagine how they are living now," she said, wondering how they are getting food and whether they are able to sleep.

"It is sad that I cannot just go right now and be with them, or give any help."

> **They have nothing left, but they are safe.**
> Rashmi Thapa

It will be hard to forget the family house where she was born and grew up until she got married at 25, she said, remembering how the whole family would sit and eat together under its roof.

"It's not only this house that is broken, my heart is broken with it," she said.

Thapa is also worried that so much attention is being paid to the capital city, while remote areas like her native village are being left out when it comes to rescue mission.

Nearly five thousand people are confirmed dead, while many more are still missing.

FATALITY

GO train strikes, kills man

A man in his 30s is dead after being struck by a GO train at Union Station on Tuesday evening.

Circumstances surrounding the death were unclear at press time. But in a statement on its website, GO transit said, "there has been a tragic accident that has resulted in a fatality at Union Station."

The victim was a GO Transit customer. His identity was being withheld until his family was notified.

The incident happened on platform 11-12 and involved a train en route to Barrie.

"Our hearts go out to the family of the individual involved," said GO Transit spokesperson Mark Ostler.

He added that GO Transit is co-operating fully with the ongoing police investigation.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Oshawa mayor changes his mind on prayer

Oshawa's mayor, who vehemently spoke out against a Supreme Court ruling labeling the recitation of the Lord's Prayer at council meetings "unconstitutional," has changed his mind. On Monday, John Henry voted in favour of leaving the prayer out of meetings.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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BY THE NUMBERS

Riders tell the TTC how they really feel

The latest numbers from the TTC's quarterly customer satisfaction survey are in. Riders gave the service high marks for things like safety and wayfinding, but expressed a growing frustration over crowding and subway delays. The TTC will receive the data from the survey later today. In the meantime, here's what riders are saying about the red rocket. **Luke Simcoe/Metro**

43%

THE PERCENTAGE OF TTC RIDERS WHO USE TRANSIT AT LEAST ONCE A DAY.

This segment of riders expressed lower overall satisfaction with the TTC than those who rode the rocket once a week or less.

1,000

THE NUMBER OF RIDERS SURVEYED BY THE TTC IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2014.

66%

THE PERCENTAGE OF RIDERS WHO FEEL PRIDE IN THE TTC AND WHAT IT MEANS TO TORONTO.

This number is down seven points from last year, but TTC officials said the decrease is "not statistically significant."

22%

THE NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS WHOSE LAST TRIP ON THE TTC WAS ON A STREETCAR.

These riders expressed less satisfaction with the TTC than those whose last trip was on a subway or a bus. However, based on more recent data, Chris Upfold, head of customer service, said riders were "markedly" more likely to be satisfied with their streetcar trip on routes with dedicated rights of way.

$2.80

THE COST OF A TTC TOKEN AS OF MARCH 1, 2015.

Despite the recent fare hike, 90 per cent of TTC riders surveyed said the service offered "average" value for money or better. Upfold said that number has remained constant for the past two years.

TRANSIT

'Lack of investment' behind garbled subway announcements

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

The better way is looking to become the more audible way.

One of the most common sources for consternation among TTC riders is the sometimes completely unintelligible announcements about subway delays, according to the latest customer satisfaction survey.

Fewer than 60 per cent of riders surveyed said the announcements — which often sound like they're being shouted into a tin can by Charlie Brown's teacher — were helpful.

Chris Upfold, the TTC's head of customer service, said officials are aware of the problem and looking to fix it in time for the upcoming Pan Am and Parapan Am Games.

So, why all the problems in the first place?

"Bad technology and a lack of investment is what it boils down to," Upfold told Metro.

To communicate with passengers, transit control relies on what he called a "leaky feeder" system.

"There's a cable running down the tunnel that doesn't have insulation around it," Upfold explained.

"It kind of leaks radio waves that the trains then pick up."

> **I think you want to hear someone on the train with you who is in control of your specific situation.**
> Chris Upfold, the TTC's head of customer service

Like much of the TTC's infrastructure, the system is past its prime, leading to poor connections and garbled messages.

Instead of replacing the aging antennae, Upfold said the TTC is considering having train operators, rather than transit control, relay messages to passengers.

"When you hear an announcement that's actually audible, that's generally coming from the operator," he said.

The TTC is doing customer research to find out if passengers would prefer to hear about delays from a central authority or from the staff member driving the train.

Upfold already has a pretty good idea of what he'd like to see — or hear.

"I think you want to hear someone on the train with you who is in control of your specific situation."

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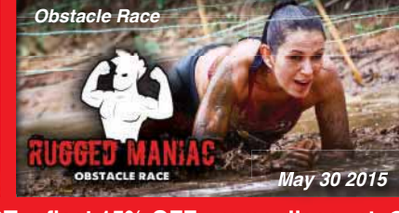

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Little library lives on to help community

LITERACY

City's change of heart on book nook

Carter and Rachel Popoff have always been voracious readers. As kids, the now teen siblings from Brampton loved snuggling up on the couch with their parents and a good book.

They would spend summers raising thousands of dollars for their school library through lemonade stands and would never refuse a trip to Chapters to expand their home collection.

So last year, when their mother took the hundreds of tales they amassed through their childhood and turned them into a little free library on the quiet, sidewalk-free Byng Ave. side of their corner-lot house on Mill Street South, the pair adored watching families stroll up to the nook to take or return books.

But on Monday, they received an order from a city bylaw officer demanding they "immediately" remove the library from the public property on which it stands. The order cited a bylaw deeming the library "an obstruction" and warning that failure to remove it would result in legal action.

Following questions from Torstar News Service and other media, the city backtracked Tuesday afternoon, apologizing for "the concern and any inconvenience this may have caused."

Spokesperson Megan Ball told Torstar News Service in an email, "Staff will be working with the homeowner to come to a reasonable solution related to the location of the community library box."

The whole ordeal, said Rachel and Carter's mother, Kimberley, shocked the family. "We didn't think the city would care because we are fostering community spirit and reading." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

From left, Rachel, 13, Carter, 15, Kimberley and Michael Popoff, with their library. The Popoff family won a reprieve from the City of Brampton . RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

EDUCATION

Teacher caught sleeping on the job

Toronto's public school board is investigating after a high school teacher was photographed while apparently sleeping on the job.

The incident first came to light after a parent took to social media on Friday, saying via Twitter: "So my son just texted me a picture of his #TDSB supply teacher full-on taking a nap in class. Mouth open and snoring."

> **It is completely inappropriate for any staff to sleep on the job.**
> Shaun Chen, chair, Toronto District School Board

Shaun Chen, chair of the Toronto District School Board, did not wish to comment on the ongoing probe, but did say "it is completely inappropriate for any staff to sleep on the job."

"Our students in our schools show up to learn, and when they are in the classroom, it is expected that our staff are there to provide a positive learning experience. Staff should not be sleeping on the job, period."

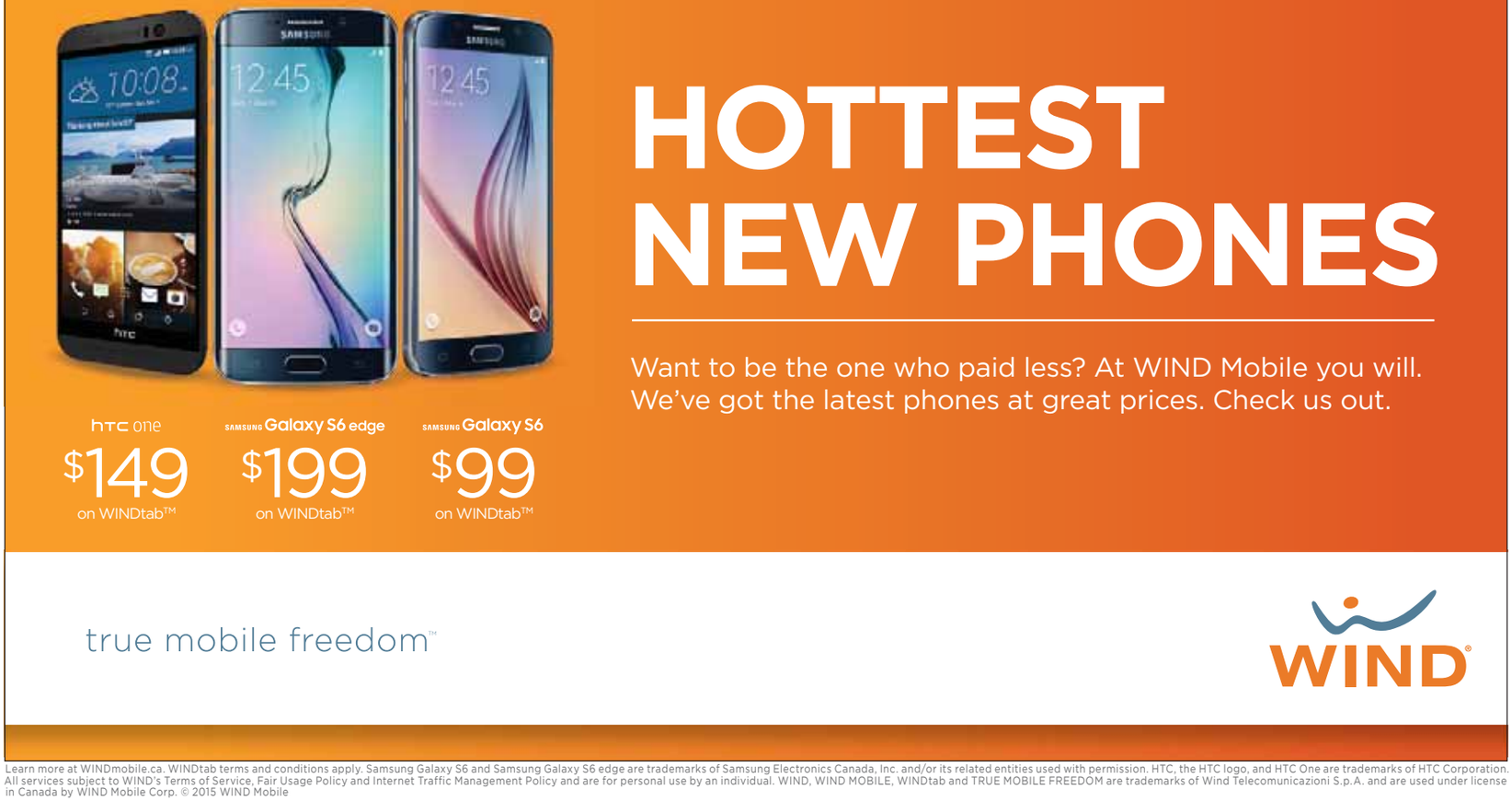
A story in the Toronto Sun, quoting unnamed sources, identified the school as Subway Academy One, which is located inside Eastern Commerce Collegiate, near Danforth and Donlands avenues.

The Sun story said a student provided photos and video from his cellphone to the school's principal.

"We have been made aware of this situation and are investigating," board spokesperson Ryan Bird told Torstar News Service. "Except for designated breaks, it is unacceptable for any staff member to be sleeping while on the job."

Supply teachers, on average, earn $214.46 a day. Such positions are in high demand by young teachers because they are the gateway into long-term contracts and, eventually, full-time jobs.

Retired teachers can also be called in for supply work for a limited number of days each school year. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Malls a 'time capsule'

JANE'S WALK

Tour explores impact, future of shopping centres

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Shari Kasman says her Jane's Walk tour through Dufferin and Galleria malls will explore "the decline of mall culture" in Toronto and consider how the spaces could be transformed to benefit the community. Jane's Walk honours the late author Jane Jacobs. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Shari Kasman has a love/hate relationship with her local malls.

Whether it's the old gumball machines and arcade games at Galleria or the possibly fake plants that line Dufferin Mall's corridors, the 36-year-old artist is fascinated by the "kitschy" appeal of two of Toronto's most infamous shopping centres.

"A few years ago, I started going to the Galleria Mall and taking pictures because it was like stepping into a time capsule," she said. "It's basically remained unchanged since 1972."

Kasman's dichotomous relationship with Galleria and Dufferin will be the subject of a Jane's Walk tour on Saturday.

Called From One Mall to Another: The Galleria to The Duff, the walk will take people on a journey that explores how the shopping centres have affected the neighbourhoods they're part of.

Topics will range from the negative impact Dufferin Mall had on Bloor Street businesses when it was built in 1956 to some of the many failed proposals for revamping Galleria.

Personally, Kasman wonders if the two malls should be torn down and replaced with something that brings the community out into the street rather than taking them inside with all the "eerie lighting and recycled air."

"Some people say malls will be obsolete in 15 years," she said. "So I want people to start thinking about how these spaces could be better used."

IF YOU GO

From One Mall to Another: The Galleria to The Duff starts in the Galleria Mall parking lot at 2 p.m. Saturday.

TOURS

Walk this way for a slice of your city

Jane's Walk, the annual pedestrian-powered celebration of author, urban planner and Torontonian Jane Jacobs, is once again upon us.

This year, more than 165 walking tours are planned across the city from Friday to Monday. They touch on topics ranging from Toronto's industrial past to its gentrified future.

Metro spoke with the festival's organizers and selected four walks that readers should check out.

Sustainable Fashion Along Queen Street
11 a.m. Saturday
Starting point: The Black Market (256 Queen St. W.)

Join two Toronto fashionistas for a walk down Queen Street, exploring the big-name clothing stores near Spadina to the trendy vintage shops of Parkdale. Along the way, you'll learn about the environmental and labour conditions that underpin the fashion industry.

Gardiner Expressway: To Be or Not to Be?
1 p.m. Saturday
Starting point: Jarvis Street and Lakeshore

One of the timeliest walks on offer, this tour highlights the issues with the Gardiner Expressway as well as options for its future. Watch out for falling concrete!

Police Carding: Not a Black-and-White Issue
2:30 p.m. Saturday
Starting point: The concession stand at Nathan Phillips Square

Another Jane's Walk ripped from the headlines, this tour examines how police profiling and targeting extends beyond race and affects our experience of public space.

The Urban Legends of West Queen West
2:30 p.m. Sunday
Starting point: The front steps of Artscape Youngplace (180 Shaw St.)

Learn the history of the Queen Street neighbourhood between Bathurst and Dufferin streets. In particular, this walking tour compares historical facts about the area with accompanying urban legends.

LUKE SIMCOE/METRO

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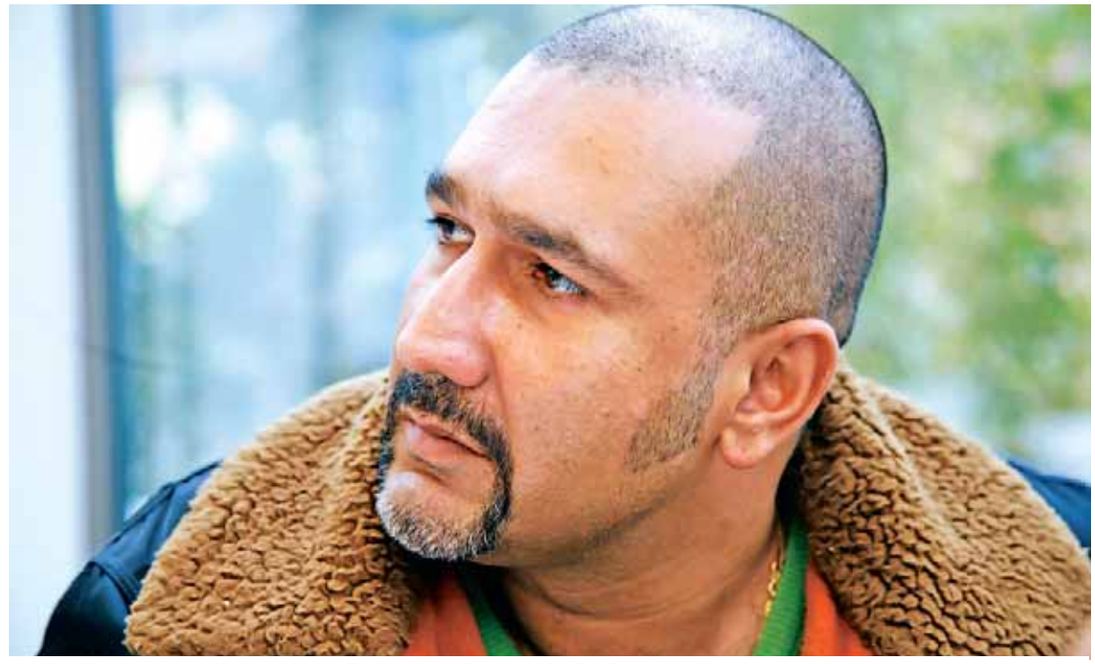
MECCA

Scenes from the movie

1. This cube shaped structure, called the Kaaba is the beating heart of Islam. Millions of pilgrims circle it in an ancient ritual called the Tawaaf.
2. Mecca's newest addition, the Kingdom Tower, looms over the Kaaba.
3. This woman pilgrim raises both hands to show her respect for this ancient structure whose direction more than a billion Muslims face when they pray.
4. A Hajj volunteer stands under the Saudi flag. Young men like him, still in school, volunteer their services during the pilgrimage.
5. Parvez Sharma takes a selfie on his iPhone at the Kaaba during his Hajj pilgrimage.

ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Muslim director Parvez Sharma's latest film, A Sinner in Mecca, is showing at Hot Docs. CONTRIBUTED

Gay Muslim director draws death threats

HOT DOCS

Filmmaker speaks of 'abundance of caution'

Security is being added for Parvez Sharma, 41, the gay Muslim director of A Sinner in Mecca, following online threats ahead of his film's world premiere at Hot Docs Wednesday.

"It's (being done) out of an abundance of caution," said Hot Docs executive director Brett Hendrie. "It's obviously a film that is provocative and high interest, and so we have somebody who will be with Parvez."

"I am a little worried. I don't know what's going to happen tomorrow," said the filmmaker as he left his New York home for Toronto, adding Hot Docs was arranging "a security detail of some sort" in response to his concerns about online hate mail and death threats.

"I expected backlash, but I did not expect it so early," said Sharma, who said he was denounced and had a fatwa imposed on him by "a minor religious figure in South Africa" following the release of his 2007 film A Jihad for Love, which looked at the lives of gay, lesbian and transgender Muslims.

The threats, which don't mention Toronto or Hot Docs, have come in via the film's website and on message boards, which "have completely lit up where people are denouncing the film and me," said Sharma. Iranian state media have denounced A Sinner in Mecca as part of a "Western conspiracy" to legitimize the "despicable sin of homosexuality."

> **"No one has even seen (the film) yet and yet the reaction has been enormous.**
> Parvez Sharma

"No one has even seen (the film) yet and yet the reaction has been enormous," said Sharma.

In A Sinner in Mecca, Sharma chronicles his hajj, a religious pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia, an act of devotion that assures forgiveness for sins. It's a deeply personal film about faith, forgiveness and Sharma's spiritual reconciliation with his late mother, who didn't accept his homosexuality.

"I need to prove that I can be a good Muslim and be gay," Sharma says onscreen as he begins his journey, which includes stops in his birthplace of Saharanpur in northern India.

It was a risky endeavour. Homosexuals can face death in Saudi Arabia. And Sharma brought two small cameras and an iPhone into holy sites, where it is forbidden to film. He said some of his footage was erased when his camera was confiscated by the mutaween, Islamic religious police.

Only rush seats are available for the world premiere of A Sinner in Mecca on April 29. It screens again April 30 and May 2. Go to hotdocs.ca for information.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Editor's picks: Two of the best to see at the Hot Docs festival

Toronto's Hot Docs festival continues through Sunday, featuring 210 films from 44 countries at venues across the city. You can get the full rundown at hotdocs.ca. Here's some of what we're liking from today's schedule. METRO

Speed Sisters

Despite constant danger from the Israeli occupation, speed racing has quickly become a hot sport pitting cities in the West Bank against one another. Enter Marah, Mona, Betty, Noor and manager Maysoon — the Middle East's first all-female racing team, fighting to join the ranks of male drivers in a newly formed racing federation and shattering stereotypes about Arab women.

Where: TIFF Bell Lightbox (350 King St. W.)
When: 6:15 p.m.
Tickets: $15.04
Length: 80 minutes

COURTESY OF AMBER FARES

The Bolivian Case

Three Norwegian teens are arrested with 22 kilograms of cocaine as they prepare to fly out of Bolivia. While each is charged with the same crime, starkly different images of the girls, and the roles they played, are formed as their stories play out back home. The documentary is billed as a "criminal exposé that sheds light on the increasing malleability of modern crime and punishment."

Where: TIFF Bell Lightbox (350 King St. W.)
When: 9:15 p.m.
Tickets: $15.04
Length: 75 minutes

CONTRIBUTED

Board head wants children taught in four languages

EDUCATION

Program would be first in Ontario

Forget French immersion; children as young as four could be taught in up to four languages — every day — at an unusual multi-language specialty school being proposed by the Toronto Catholic District School Board.

Far from being a confusing Tower of Babel, its champions argue that a possible French-Spanish-German-Mandarin-immersion program being considered for north Scarborough as early as this fall — a first in Ontario, if not Canada — would offer a gateway to the languages of the world's economic superpowers at an age when kids are best able to master them.

"My view is we're not preparing our students for the world stage — we barely do a passing job with French, and we're a bilingual country! — so we're asking parents if they'd like to educate their children in languages of some of the largest economies in the world," said Michael Del Grande, chairman of the TCDSB.

Del Grande has proposed what he calls a European-style multi-language program to be housed in the former St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic School near Warden Avenue and Finch Ave. E., which closed in 2011.

If enough parents of preschoolers across Toronto indicate they would enroll their child this fall or September 2016, the board would launch it as a kindergarten program and grow it one grade at a time. The school has room for 259 students.

As a French immersion school with German and Spanish also as languages of instruction, the school also could, if parents agree, extend the day by half an hour to add instruction in Mandarin.

The board has posted a survey on its website and would need parents of about 75 kindergarten children to show their interest by May 15 to launch this fall, said Gary Poole, the board's associate director academic.

"There's a new, global mindset among some of the new urbane community parents who see language as opening up opportunities for commerce in the future. It's the European influence," said Poole. So the program is not aimed at just those children whose families speak those languages.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Isabel Pagano during her Spanish class at St. Jane Frances school Tuesday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **We're not preparing our students for the world stage.**
> Michael Del Grande

CRIME

Man charged with son's stabbing murder

Toronto police have charged a man with second-degree murder in the death of his son.

Edward Dwyer, 58, is due to appear in court May 1.

Officers responded to a report of a stabbing near Kingston Crescent and Kingston Road just after 6:30 a.m. on April 23.

The victim was identified as Edward Bernard Junior Dwyer, 24. He died in hospital. METRO

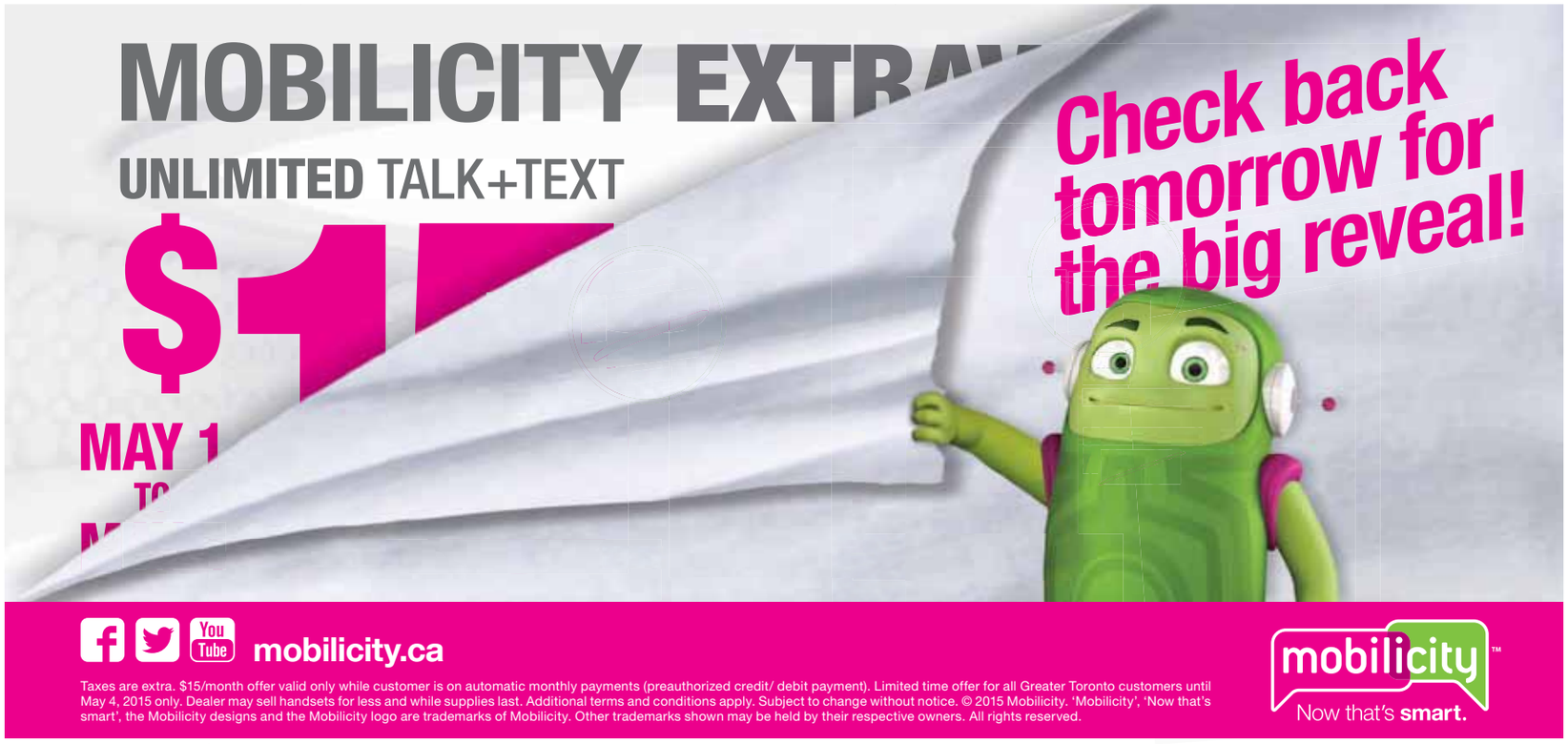
Human trafficking case leads to arrest

A 33-year-old Toronto man faces charges in a human trafficking investigation after allegedly forcing a young woman into the sex trade.

Police say a 19-year-old woman was forced into the sex trade by Andre Stubbs, who is also accused of assaulting her.

Investigators allege the violent assaults occurred over years.

He also faces charges in connection with a firearms investigation. METRO



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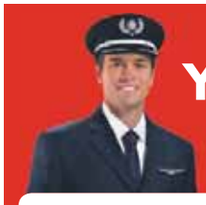

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CRIME

Police pursue TTC sex assault suspect

Toronto police are asking for the public's help identifying a man wanted in a sexual assault case that allegedly occurred on a TTC bus earlier this month.

Police say a man got on a bus at Yorkwoods Gate and Driftwood Ave. at about 3 p.m. April 2.

While he was on the bus, the man allegedly sexually assaulted a 20-year-old woman, then left the bus at Downsview Station.

He is described as 60 to 65 years old, with a height between 5-6 and 5-8, a medium build and a freckled face.

He was seen wearing a puffy jacket, dark hoodie, black baseball cap with a Canadian flag, black pants and boots.

Anyone with information can contact police at 416-808-3100 or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477).

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto police are looking for this male suspect in a TTC sexual assault investigation. CONTRIBUTED

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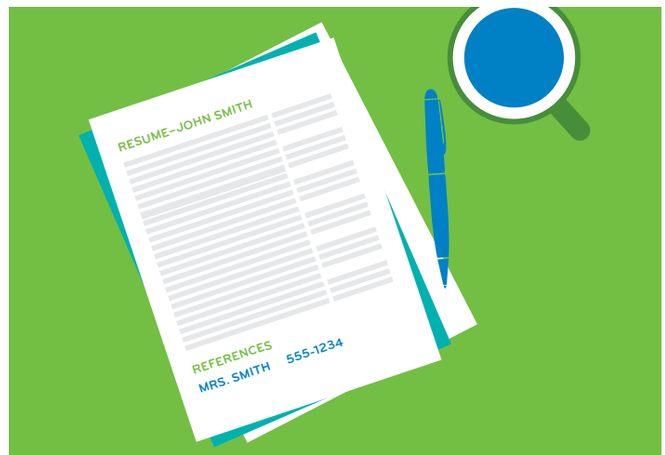

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Cabs debate gets heated again

TAXI ACCESSIBILITY

Critics fear reform hasn't worked, may be reversed

Blair Williams was encouraged when city council passed sweeping taxi-industry reforms that would eventually lead to Toronto's entire cab fleet being wheelchair accessible.

Fourteen months later, Williams is not finding it any easier, faster or cheaper to book a metered taxi that can accommodate his wheelchair.

But what he finds even more unsettling is the prospect that council could soon undo some of the changes it passed in 2014, potentially affecting long-term accessibility goals.

"I feel flustered that we're going to be back at step one. We can't allow it to happen," Williams told the city's disability-issues committee on Tuesday.

As part of a major taxi-industry overhaul, council adopted a phased-in approach to accessible cab service with a goal of six per cent of the taxi fleet by this June, on the eve of the Pan Am Games. In January 2014, Toronto had no accessible taxis for metered on-demand service.

Tracey Cook, executive director of municipal licensing and standards, told the committee that six per cent goal has been surpassed as Toronto now has 451 taxis, including Wheel Trans, offering metered on-demand service. Another 80 applications are underway.

She was "very disappointed" to hear Williams and others tell the committee they still can't hire accessible cabs in timely fashion. "It gives us an opportunity to go back to the industry and figure out how do we address this," she said.

And if council, at its meeting next week, votes to reverse the licensing part of the taxi reforms, creating a single Toronto Taxi Licence (TTL), one third of the fleet, or 1,700, would eventually be wheelchair accessible. There are also a "myriad" of ways to meet the long-term goal of 100 per cent accessibility, Cook said.

Council could, for instance, require there be a standardized, fully accessible vehicle, irrespective of the type of licence.

Meanwhile, councillors on the disability-issues committee blasted their colleagues on the licensing and standards committee, particularly Giorgio Mammoliti (Ward 7, York West) and Jim Karygiannis (Ward 38, Scarborough–Agincourt) for re-opening the taxi debate.

"There is a nasty, aggressive, very pushy (taxi) lobby going on to take what we did in council and then what a court upheld and undo it all," said Coun. Shelley Carroll (Ward 33, Don Valley East).

The disability-issues committee passed motions asking council to renew its commitment to taxi reform and a fully accessible taxi fleet.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

As part of the changes made in 2014, six per cent of Toronto's taxi cabs are supposed to be wheelchair accessible by this June. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Blair Williams, left, and Peter Anthopolous are advocates for the city's disabled.
DAVID RIDER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Call for changes on police funding

To arrest soaring costs, a new report is calling for sweeping changes to the policing model in Ontario, including transferring many functions performed by frontline officers to civilians or other "private-sector security providers."

"The purpose of this paper is not to outline the economic problem but to consider how the future might look," says the just-released 45-page report prepared by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Ontarians pay the highest policing costs in Canada, including both provincial and municipal expenditures, the report states. "Over many years police budgets have not seen some of the more aggressive cuts experienced by other public services," the report says. "But a wall has been hit."

The report has recommendations aimed at modernizing the delivery of police services while reining in costs. Many would require the provincial government to change the Police Services Act.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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GTA to join ranks of 'megacities'

MEGACITIES

Population set to reach 10 million in next two decades

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

New research about the world's biggest cities contains some lessons for the Greater Toronto Area as it prepares to join the ranks of the world's 10-million-citizens-strong "megacities" within two decades.

Chris Kennedy, an engineering professor at the University of Toronto, studies the "metabolisms" of cities — the resources they consume and what they produce. His most recent work found the world's 27 megacities are consuming more than their fair share of resources.

As a whole, the cities housed 6.7 per cent of world's people, but produce 12.6 per cent of the solid waste, consume 9.9 per cent of the gasoline and 9.3 per cent of the electricity.

Kennedy defines a megacity as a region with 10 million or more people, from Paris' 10.4 million to Tokyo's 34 million, based on 2010 population estimates.

The GTA is expected to reach that threshold in two decades.

"As the GTA grows, keeping it compact is important," Kennedy said. "We do find that the more spread out and sprawled cities are, not only do they use more transportation fuels, we found they use more electricity."

His study identified approaches to efficiency that could work for Toronto. They include implementing a district-wide heating system to save on electricity use and building proper public transit to reduce gasoline use.

Looking at the whole region and not just its core is important, he said.

The study found a strong link between wealth and energy use, where poorer megacities use fewer resources per capita because many of the people who live there aren't getting access to water and energy they need.

The study identified London as the only megacity that had a growing GDP but declining energy use, which Kennedy believes is due primarily to rising energy prices.

MEGACITIES

While the study found the wealthiest megacities use the most resources, it identified examples of some commonly used efficiencies. They include:

- **Saving energy:** Most buildings in Moscow are served by a large heating system.
- **Saving water:** Tokyo has reduced water leakage to only 3 per cent, compared to more than 50 per cent in cities with leaky pipes like Rio de Janiero and Sao Paolo, Brazil

Tokyo, above, currently boasts a population of over 34 million people. The Japanese megacity has reduced water leakage to only three percent. Toronto, below, and the larger GTA is expected to eclipse 10 million people over the next 20 years.

GETTY IMAGES/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne smiles after buying beer at the Flying Monkeys Brewery in Barrie, Ont., on Friday April 17.
FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wynne pays big bucks for consultants

GOVERNMENT SPENDING

$7M for advice on Hydro and alcohol reform

Ontario spent nearly $7 million on consultants who helped a government-appointed panel recommend that the province sell a majority stake in Hydro One and liberalize the sale of beer.

Several consultants and firms — including KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers and Deloitte — were awarded contracts worth a total of $6.8 million for their advice to the advisory council led by former TD Bank CEO Ed Clark.

"Having the technical expertise makes us confident that the recommendations from the council are evidence-based and in the best interest of Ontarians," Premier Kathleen Wynne's office said in a statement.

The Liberals tapped Clark to review Crown assets as the government looks to fund its $130-billion, 10-year plan to improve transit and infrastructure.

Following Clark's recommendations, the government announced earlier this month that beer would be sold in several hundred grocery stores and a new beer tax would be phased in over four years.

The government also announced it would sell off 60 per cent of Hydro One, Ontario's largest electrical transmission utility. It says it will not allow any one shareholder to buy more than 10 per cent while the province remains the controlling owner with 40 per cent.

Clark said the province could generate about $9 billion from the Hydro One sale, with $5 billion going to pay the utility's debt and $4 billion to fund infrastructure projects.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Elderly woman dies after striking building with car
Police say an 81-year-old woman has died after a weekend crash in Toronto.

Police say the woman was driving into a parking lot Sunday and the car continued through the lot, striking a curb and then a building. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police arrest five in alleged crack ring
Five people have been charged in an investigation into alleged crack cocaine trafficking in Toronto. Police say three men, a woman and a 17-year-old boy were arrested after a two-month investigation.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCARBOROUGH

Suburban cyclists to get extra attention

The Toronto Centre for Active Transportation is on a mission to make sure people in the suburbs are pedalling just as much as people in the core.

Organizers plan to start in Scarborough — an area Nancy Smith Lea calls "very underserved" when it comes to cycling.

"Scarborough has so many transit challenges," said Lea, the transportation centre's director. "A lot of them could be addressed by just improving cycling conditions."

The area has only one bicycle sales and service facility, according to information from the city. It's D'Ornellas Bike Shop, located near Lawrence and Warden.

That's despite the fact that it plays home to at least 24 per cent of all Toronto residents, many of whom, studies have shown, are making routine trips shorter than five kilometres — easy targets for riding instead of using other forms of transit.

Lea said hubs will be created where people can get their bikes fixed, take part in repair workshops, access tools, and, of course, meet up with cycling mentors.

The project will launch as soon as a co-ordinator is hired, and will eventually be expanded to include other neighbourhoods. GILBERT NGABO/METRO

> **"A lot of (Scarborough's transit challenges) could be addressed by just improving cycling conditions.**
> Nancy Smith Lea

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3 HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT

As always, the spring report of Canada's auditor general, Michael Ferguson, takes issue with many areas of federal responsibility — from health care in First Nations communities, to oversight tax credits. Here are three findings from the report, which was released on Tuesday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

1 First Nations health

Health Canada can't say for sure that all eligible First Nations individuals in remote communities in Manitoba and Ontario can access sufficient clinical and client care services and medical transportation, the report says. Only one of 45 randomly chosen nurses in the First Nations communities had completed all five of Health Canada's mandatory training courses. Not all nursing stations in the communities meet health and safety requirements or building codes. In one case, a nursing station residence had been unusable for more than two years because of a broken septic system.

2 Drug-resistant infections

The report says the Public Health Agency of Canada has failed to mobilize its federal, provincial and territorial counterparts in developing a national strategy to deal with so-called anti-microbial resistance. Ferguson's audit found that the agency collects only limited information on drug-resistant infections at clinics and long-term care facilities, and lacks details about the extent of the problem in remote areas and among vulnerable members of the population.

3 Missing cost projections

Finance Department reports do not include future cost projections on a wide suite of tax benefits that MPs ought to be able to take into account when they debate budgets and public spending, according to the report by Ferguson, seen at left. The auditor says overall projections are available for measures such as the children's fitness tax credit, the first-time home buyers credit and the age credit, but that is not the same as tracking the actual amount of dollars being lost.

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Senate payback plan mulled

OTTAWA

Committee would review expenses confidentially

The Senate is seeking to set up a process that would allow senators who face questions for travel or living expenses to quietly repay the money, Torstar News Service has learned.

The Senate standing committee on internal economy, budgets and administration is planning to debate a resolution behind closed doors this week that would allow senators whose expenses are flagged by administration to take part in a confidential dispute resolution process involving an arbitrator, according to a draft obtained by Torstar News Service.

That process could come to an abrupt end at any time — or never even begin — if a senator decides to reimburse the expenses in question, says the draft resolution to be debated by the committee.

One Senate source not authorized to speak publicly said there is concern among insiders that the proposed process could undermine the independence of the institution and potentially allow for future scandals to be swept under the rug.

The Senate has been embroiled in public expense scandals for more than two years. ISTOCK

It comes at a time when the Senate, still reeling from the expense scandal that has been making headlines for more than two years and the ongoing criminal trial of suspended senator Mike Duffy awaits the results of a wide-reaching and potentially politically damaging investigation into expense accounts by the federal spending watchdog.

Auditor general Michael Ferguson's report is expected to be tabled in the Senate the first week of June.

One senator familiar with the draft resolution suggested it could be one way to deal with senators whose expenses were flagged by auditors, as well as any problems that arise in the future.

If the Senate administration suspects a senator was using resources for anything unrelated to their parliamentary functions, or was reimbursed for an expense that was not allowed under the rules, guidelines and policies in place, the officials would report it to the subcommittee on agenda and procedure, also known as the steering committee.

The steering committee would then begin a confidential preliminary review, which would either conclude nothing was wrong, or that the senator misused resources or was not entitled to expenses they claimed.

The senator would then have a choice: reimburse the money, which would end the process, or appeal to an impartial special arbiter, who would lead a confidential dispute resolution process, which the senator could participate in by providing observations and evidence.

The draft resolution says the arbitration process would end immediately if the senator reimbursed the amount demanded by the steering committee.

The only time the wider internal economy committee would be informed is if the senator refused to either pay the money back or take part in the dispute resolution process, or the arbiter rendered a decision that was unfavourable to the senator.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Joni Mitchell recovering

Reports that Joni Mitchell was in a coma "with no immediate prospects for getting better" have been denied by the Canadian folk-pop icon's camp. TMZ had been saying Mitchell was "unable to respond to anyone" as of Tuesday afternoon. However, the singer's official website denied that was the case: "Contrary to rumors circulating on the Internet today, Joni is not in a coma. Joni is still in the hospital — but she comprehends, she's alert, and she has her full senses. A full recovery is expected."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Income tax filing deadline extended to May 5

Canadians are getting more time to file and pay their taxes due to a mistake by the Canada Revenue Agency. The deadline for most Canadians was set for the end of April. However, a spokesman for Revenue Minister Kerry-Lynne Findlay said that, due to a human error, a notification was sent last week to tax preparers indicating the deadline was May 5. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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EDMONTON

Remains found are sex worker's: Police

Leah Holoiday
Metro | Edmonton

Eleven years after Delores Dawn Brower was last seen hitching a ride on 118 Avenue in Edmonton, Alta. RCMP confirmed Tuesday that the remains found south of the city are hers.

Edmonton's medical examiner was able to identify the 33-year-old woman, who worked in the city's sex trade when she disappeared, through dental records. The examiner has been unable to determine Brower's cause of death but tests are ongoing.

On April 19, a property owner found parts of Brower's skull just east of Leduc, Alta. near Rollyview community, prompting a police investigation.

It is the third time human remains have been discovered in an eight kilometre radius of one another. The skeletal remains of Katie Sylvia Ballantyne, also an Edmonton sex-trade worker, were discovered in the same region in July 2003. In 2012, the remains of 20-year-old Amber Tuccaro were found.

Insp. Stacey Talbot said RCMP is investigating the possibility that the area could be a "dumping ground" for bodies.

Described as Métis, Brower was known on the street as Spider and had been canvassed by RCMP's Project Kare, a provincial task force formed in 2003 to investigate missing or murdered sex workers. The RCMP Historical Homicide Unit is now leading the investigation.

Brower's family released a statement urging people to contact police if they had information about the homicide.

"While we are saddened to have confirmation that Delores' remains have been found, there is a sense of thankfulness as well. We loved Delores and are grateful to have some closure."

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Guilty plea in burning of Saskatchewan woman

A man accused of attacking a homeless woman and setting her on fire in northern Saskatchewan has pleaded guilty to attempted murder. Leslie Black, 29, entered the plea Tuesday in a Prince Albert courtroom.

A judge ordered the man to undergo a psychiatric assessment and he was remanded in custody until June 26.

Marlene Bird was found badly injured in a parking lot outside a community centre in the city's downtown on June 1, 2014. The 57-year-old was so badly burned in the attack that doctors were forced to amputate both her legs. She also had several surgeries for skin grafts.

There was an outpouring of support for Bird nationally and internationally and a local shelter set up a trust fund to help cover medical expenses along with rehabilitation costs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

COURT DEL MASTRO SAYS HE'S PAID 'EXCEPTIONALLY HEAVY PRICE' FOR OFFENCES

Former Conservative MP Dean Del Mastro leaves court on Tuesday in Lindsay, Ont. Del Mastro choked back tears as he described the "nationwide condemnation" he's had to endure throughout his election overspending trial. Crown prosecutors are seeking a sentence of nine to 12 months in jail. But Del Mastro addressed the Crown's stance in his appeal to the judge. "They have failed to acknowledge the exceptionally heavy price that I have already had to pay," he said. The former Conservative MP was found guilty last fall of violating the Canada Elections Act. Del Mastro's sentence is expected to be delivered on June 26.

FRED THORNHILL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police lay charges in homeless deaths

WINNIPEG

Two men killed over weekend, another earlier

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

Winnipeg police have charged the man that they initially identified as a person of interest in the deaths of two homeless men in the downtown area last weekend, as well as that of a third man found beaten to death in a bus shack earlier in April.

But Winnipeg Police Service Superintendent Danny Smyth stopped short Tuesday of calling the man a serial killer.

"I don't know if there's a definition for a serial killer," said Smyth after announcing the arrest in the cases that have left Winnipeg's homeless community on edge and garnered national media attention. "But certainly three murders is significant."

John Paul Ostamas, 40, was charged with two counts of first-degree murder and one count of second-degree murder Monday.

Police allege Ostamas attacked and killed Donald Collins, 65, in downtown Winnipeg Friday night, and then killed 48-year-old Stony Bushie after the two met several hours later at a parkade near the same corner.

The second-degree murder charges are connected to the death of Myles Monias, 37, who was found beaten to death in a bus shelter downtown April 10.

Smyth said Ostamas, who is originally from the Thunder Bay, Ont. area and has lived in and out of Winnipeg for the last decade, is "very transient" and knew both men he's accused of killing.

INVESTIGATION

Smyth said it's too early to say whether Ostamas is involved in any other unsolved crimes in Winnipeg and said investigators will be contacting police in other cities to look at possible links to unsolved crimes elsewhere.

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NFL will pay taxes

SPORTS

League to give up tax-exempt status in U.S.

Every so often, in a bid to sound threatening, a member of the U.S. Congress has vowed to revoke the NFL's tax-exempt status. Now Commissioner Roger Goodell says the league will give it up voluntarily to "eliminate this distraction."

One result is that Goodell's compensation — about $35 million in 2013 and approximately $44 million in 2012 — will no longer need to be made public.

ANTITRUST

The league's switch from tax-exempt to taxable status does not affect its antitrust exemption, created in the Sports Broadcasting Act of 1961. That allows clubs to negotiate radio and TV broadcast rights together.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In a memo to all 32 teams Tuesday, he wrote that "a change in the tax status will not alter the function or operation of the league office or Management Council in any way."

A business of about $10 billion in annual revenues, the NFL has held tax-exempt status since the 1940s and so was required to file a publicly available IRS form listing compensation for the highest-paid employees. Individual NFL teams do not have tax-exempt status.

Sen. Richard Blumenthal, a Connecticut Democrat, said the NFL's move "seems more like a PR stunt than a real gain. The tax-exempt status produces a pittance compared to its congressionally granted antitrust exemption — enabling billions in broadcast revenue."

Blumenthal said he would reintroduce legislation calling for a review of antitrust exemptions for the NFL, Major League Baseball, NBA and NHL.

The NBA does not have tax-exempt status, and Major League Baseball gave its status up in 2007. The NHL's status still is tax-exempt.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Commissioner Roger Goodell said the league office and its management council will file tax returns as taxable entities for the 2015 fiscal year. ROSS D. FRANKLIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Judges undecided on gay marriage

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy did not tip his hand Tuesday as the high court heard historic arguments over the right of gay and lesbian couples to marry.

Kennedy, whose vote could decide the issue, offered reasons for hope and worry to both sides in the rapt courtroom. Same-sex couples can currently marry in 36 states and the District of Columbia, and the court is weighing whether gay and lesbian unions should be allowed in all 50 states.

Kennedy seemed to share the concern of the court's conservative justices when he said marriage has been understood as one man and one woman for "millennia-plus time."

Same-sex marriage has been around in the United States for just over 10 years, and he wondered aloud whether scholars and the public need more time.

Yet Kennedy also pressed attorney John Bursch, representing the states that ban same-sex marriage, to explain how granting gay couples a right to marry would harm traditional marriages.

Bursch argued that removing child-rearing as the central rationale for marriage would weaken parents' commitment to staying married for their children's sake if their own ties were frayed.

Kennedy seemed concerned about adopted children in same-sex households in which only one partner is considered a parent by Michigan. "Under your view, it would be very difficult for same-sex couples to adopt those children," Kennedy said.

Chief Justice John Roberts also directed questions to both sides that made it hard to predict where he will come down.

The arguments offered the first public indication of where the justices stand in the dispute over whether states can continue defining marriage as the union of a man and a woman or whether the Constitution gives gay and lesbian couples the right to marry.

Only 11 states have granted marriage rights to same-sex couples through the ballot or the legislature. Court rulings are responsible for all the others.

A decision is expected in late June. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DISNEY

Theme Park must rehire workers who demanded clean costumes

Walt Disney World must rehire three performers who were fired when they refused to wear soiled spandex unitards as part of their costumes for the Festival of the Lion King show after an arbitrator ruled Monday they were dismissed without just cause.

Disney violated language in a collective bargaining agreement guaranteeing that all costumes be clean before performers use them, the arbitrator said.

The agreement "states unconditionally that all wardrobe shall be clean and dry, without reference to the existence, or not, of actual danger," Arbitrator Robert Moberly wrote in his opinion.

Disney said the workers carried out an unauthorized work stoppage when they refused to put on the wet unitards last June, forcing the cancellation of an evening show.

The workers said their clean unitards became wet and soiled while hanging from a rack where sweaty costumes that had been rained on were pushed up against them. But Disney managers said that the two sets of costumes never touched and that the performers were given other options.

The clean-costume provision was added to the agreement more than a decade ago after incidents of rashes, scabies and other infections.

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Residents clean streets as law enforcement officers stand guard, Tuesday in Baltimore, in the aftermath of rioting following Monday's funeral of Freddie Gray, who died in police custody. MATT ROURKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this aerial photo, police stand in formation near a gathering of protestors at the intersection of North and Pennsylvania avenues, Tuesday in Baltimore. PATRICK SEMANSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A protester throws a tear gas canister back toward riot police after a 10 p.m. curfew went into effect in the wake of Monday's riots. DAVID GOLDMAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

National Guard in Baltimore

FREDDIE GRAY DEATH

Governor vows to prevent another round of rioting

Baltimore was a city on edge Tuesday as hundreds of National Guardsmen patrolled the streets against unrest for the first time since 1968, hoping to prevent another outbreak of rioting.

Maryland's governor said 2,000 Guardsmen and 1,000 law officers would be in place overnight to try to head off a repeat of the racially charged violence set off Monday by the case of Freddie Gray, a 25-year-old black man who died of a spinal-cord injury under mysterious circumstances while in police custody.

It was the worst such violence in the U.S. since the unrest that erupted last year over the death of Michael Brown, the unarmed black 18-year-old shot by a white police officer in Ferguson, Mo.

"This combined force will not tolerate violence or looting," Gov. Larry Hogan warned.

In a measure of how tense things were, Baltimore was under a citywide 10 p.m.-to-5 a.m. emergency curfew. All public schools were closed. And the Baltimore Orioles cancelled Tuesday night's game at Camden Yards and — in what may be a first in baseball's 145-year history — announced that Wednesday's game will be closed to the public.

> **It brought a tear to my eye. Seeing it doesn't feel like the city that I love.... I am glad they're here, but it's hard to watch.**
>
> Resident Jascy Jones, about the sight of National Guardsmen on the street

The streets were largely calm all day and into the evening, with only a few scattered arrests. The real test was expected after dark.

As the 10 p.m. curfew went into effect, several hundred protesters remained in the street in the city's Penn North section near where a pharmacy was looted. Standing shoulder to shoulder, police in helmets and riot shields began advancing toward the demonstrators in an effort to push them back. Some protesters lay in the street or hurled bottles toward the police.

As the hour drew near, a local pastor used a loudspeaker to urge the demonstrators to go home, saying: "Let's show the world, because the eyes of the world are on Baltimore right now."

Around the same time and in a different neighbourhood, Baltimore police tweeted that they were making arrests in South Baltimore after people started attacking officers with rocks and bricks. At least one officer was reported injured.

Monday's looting, arson and rock- and bottle-throwing by mostly black rioters broke out just hours after Gray's funeral

Political leaders and residents called the violence a tragedy for the city and lamented the damage done by the rioters to their own neighbourhoods.

"I had officers come up to me and say, 'I was born and raised in this city. This makes me cry,'" Baltimore Police Commissioner Anthony Batts said.

But the rioting also brought out a sense of civic pride and responsibility in many Baltimore residents, with hundreds of volunteers turning out to sweep the streets of glass and other debris with brooms and trash bags donated by hardware stores. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HISTORY

The crisis marks the first time the National Guard has been called out to deal with unrest in Baltimore since 1968, when some of the same neighbourhoods that rose up this week burned for days after the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

In the wake of the riots, Orioles will play White Sox on Wednesday in closed-doors game; weekend series shifted to Florida. More on page 25.

Fast-forward to being
mortgage-free.

Desperate residents still awaiting help in Nepal

PASLANG

Since quake, remote village has yet to receive aid

There is almost nothing left of the village of Paslang, Nepal, but enormous piles of broken red bricks and heaps of mud and dust.

One of those piles was once Bhoj Kumar Thapa's home, where his pregnant wife pushed their five-year-old daughter to safety in a last, desperate act before it collapsed and killed her during Saturday's earthquake.

On Tuesday, Thapa and others in Paslang were still waiting for the government to deliver food, tents — any kind of aid — to this poor mountain village near the epicentre of the quake that killed more than 4,700 people, injured over 8,000 and left tens of thousands homeless.

"When I got home, there was nothing," said Thapa, an army soldier. "Everything was broken. My wife — she was dead."

He was put on leave from his army unit to mourn, one of the few Nepalese soldiers not deployed in the country's massive rescue and recovery operation. But instead of sadness, there is anger.

"Only the other villagers who have also lost their homes are helping me. But we get nothing from the government," Thapa said.

A woman recovers cooking pots from her collapsed home in Paslang near the epicentre of Saturday's massive earthquake in the Gorkha District of Nepal, Tuesday. WALLY SANTANA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An official came, took some pictures and left — without delivering anything to the village of about 300 people north of the capital of Kathmandu, he said.

Paslang is only three kilometres up the mountain from the town of Gorkha, the district headquarters and staging area for rescue and aid operations. But the villagers, who have no idea when they might get help, are still sleeping together in the mud and sharing whatever scraps of food they can pull from beneath their ruined buildings. Three in the hamlet have died.

> **Only the other villagers who have also lost their homes are helping me. But we get nothing from the government.**
> Bhoj Kumar Thapa, Paslang resident

Officials and foreign aid workers who have rushed to Nepal following the magnitude 7.8 earthquake are struggling against stormy weather, poor roads and a shortage of manpower and funds to get assistance to the needy. On Tuesday, the district managed to co-ordinate 26 helicopter trips to remote villages to evacuate 30 injured people before a major downpour halted the effort.

"We need 15,000 plastic tarps alone. We cannot buy that number," said Mohan Pokhran, a district disaster management committee member.

Only 50 volunteer army and police officers are distributing food and aid for thousands in the immediate vicinity, he said.

Some in Paslang have seen sacks of food being flown by helicopter to remote regions reachable only by air, without stopping. The arrival in the village of a diesel generator Tuesday, brought by "a nice charity man" from a foreign aid group that no one could identify, brought moments of much-needed elation as dozens crowded around to charge their cellphones on four attached power sockets.

Sitting in the mud and sharing tea made over an open fire with his wife and children, Tilak Bahadur Rana, a farmer, confessed he was losing heart.

"Because of this earthquake, the whole village is destroyed. We need food. We need a place to sleep, or compensation for all we have lost," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Nigerian army says it has rescued 200 girls

The Nigerian army said Tuesday it has rescued 200 girls and 93 women in the Sambisa Forest, but could not confirm if any of those freed are the Chibok schoolgirls kidnapped a year ago. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

At least 52 killed in massive landslide in Afghanistan

A landslide in a remote province in northeastern Afghanistan killed at least 52 people on Tuesday, a provincial official said. The stricken area in Badakhshan province is cut off from the rest of the country, covered in snow and only accessible from the air, significantly hampering any rescue efforts, said Shah Waliullah Adeeb, the provincial governor. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Execution of drug convict delayed in Indonesia

A Filipina woman convicted of drug smuggling in Indonesia — one of nine people due to face a firing squad — has been granted a stay of execution, Indonesia's attorney general Muhammad Prasetyo said Wednesday. Mary Jane Fiesta Veloso was arrested in 2010 at an airport in the city of Yogyakarta, where officials discovered about 2.5 kilograms of heroin hidden in her luggage. Prasetyo said Veloso was granted a stay of execution because her alleged boss has been arrested in the Philippines, and the authorities there requested Indonesian assistance in pursuing the case. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The 15 finalists nominated for the World Video Game Hall of Fame, from left, Pac-Man, Space Invaders, Sonic the Hedgehog, Minecraft, the Sims, Super Mario Bros., Doom, top, World of Warcraft, centre, Pokemon series, bottom, the Legend of Zelda, the Oregon Trail, Tetris, FIFA soccer, Angry Birds, Pong. BETHANY MOSHER-THE STRONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

15 video games make Hall of Fame shortlist

THE STRONG MUSEUM

Finalists include Pong, Angry Birds, Minecraft

Fifteen video games that have engrossed gamers for untold hours were named finalists Tuesday for the new World Video Game Hall of Fame.

The list includes arcade trailblazers Pong and Space Invaders, smartphone favourites Angry Birds and Minecraft and an array of others for console and computer.

Only a handful will make up the hall of fame's inaugural class, to be chosen by an international selection committee of journalists, scholars and other video game experts.

The induction ceremony is scheduled for June 4 inside The Strong museum in Rochester, N.Y., which also houses the National Toy Hall of Fame.

"The 15 finalists for the World Video Game Hall of Fame span decades, gaming platforms and geographies," said Jon-Paul Dyson, director of the museum's International Center for the History of Electronic Games. "Whether it's the groundbreaking game Pong or a more recent viral sensation like Minecraft, all of these games have helped shape the way that people across the globe play and relate to one another."

To make it into the hall of fame, games must have icon status, prove to be more than a passing fad and leave a mark on other games or forms of entertainment, pop culture or society in general.

The Strong said it received thousands of nominations since February, when it announced creation of the video game hall to recognize the impact of electronic games through the years. Anyone can nominate a game online.

The museum's electronic games centre has more than 55,000 video games and related artifacts, along with personal papers and corporate records that document the history of video games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOP 15

The finalists are:
Pong, Space Invaders, Angry Birds, Minecraft, Doom, FIFA soccer, the Legend of Zelda, the Oregon Trail, Pac-Man, Pokemon, the Sims, Sonic the Hedgehog, Super Mario Bros., Tetris and World of Warcraft.

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Wednesday, April 29, 2015

PRO CON METRO EXAMINES BOTH SIDES OF THE CANADA POST CONTROVERSY

Are community mailboxes good for community?

NO: They'll destroy the fabric of our great country

Boxes are not always installed with municipal approval or co-ordination (which prompted a court challenge this week from the City of Hamilton against Canada Post). A big, ugly metal superbox on or near your home can lower property values. Canada Post's refusal to add recycling bins will inevitably lead to more litter as not everyone will bother to lug home their junk mail. As our already brutal winters become increasingly more freakish, walking or driving to get essential documents will become dangerous or impossible for many. The keys don't always work. And for those with mobility issues, we wish you luck as you navigate the bureaucratic rigamarole of proving you deserve special dispensation for home delivery once a week.

YES: But only if we use imagination and planning...

The visionary view is that random encounters — and increased interactions as people gather to collect their mail — could improve quality of life for many. But this happy scenario will require more than just dumping a metal box on the edge of a lonely road. Imagine if beautifully designed mailboxes were incorporated into a local café or community centre — a destination you could walk or drive to with a friend, where you could have a cuppa and gossip about the day's news, check out community events on a notice board, or cruise the Internet. Early humankind gathered around a communal fire not just for warmth, but for much-needed human contact. Wouldn't it be wonderful if community mailboxes could resurrect that kind of ritual?

Satire fails, if it serves only the privileged

SOCIAL DISCOURSE

Omar Mouallem

I never thought I'd hold the PEN American Center's Freedom of Expression Courage awards and Adam Sandler in the same thought. But events this week brought their worlds closer together after both were boycotted over racial stereotyping.

The PEN honoree, Charlie Hebdo magazine, mocked underprivileged minorities, according to six esteemed authors boycotting the ceremony. Sandler's in-production movie, The Ridiculous 6, flagrantly dismissed the advice of its Native American cultural consultants and extras until they walked off the set.

Satire isn't supposed to be sacred, which is the very thing that makes it sacred. It shows deference to no one. But it can also cross a line and become a way for the empowered to bully the disempowered.

In recent years, similar criticisms have been thrown at 2 Broke Girls' asexual Asian workhorse tropes, The New Yorker's "fist bump" cover featuring a turbanned Obama with wife Michelle as a gun-toting revolutionary, and Tina Fey's new comedy Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt — for, among other things, a weird subplot featuring Polish-American actor Jane Krakowski's character as Native American.

Some of these criticisms are valid, others misconstrued. Together they indicate growing empathy for oppressed groups. But does the frequency of these criticisms mean audiences are becoming more sophisticated, or oversensitive?

Certainly it's become much harder to get away with casual racism since the 1990s, when Sandler teased gays, Asians, women and his own Jewish clan with equal opportunity. But there's something deeply disturbing about The Ridiculous 6. One scene shows an indigenous woman falling down drunk before being roused by white men pouring liquor on her.

Are audiences becoming more sophisticated? Or oversensitive?

Netflix, producers of The Ridiculous 6, defended Sandler: "It is a broad satire of Western movies and the stereotypes they popularized, featuring a diverse cast that is not only part of — but in on — the joke." Call me skeptical but, when actors from a group that, according to one study, gets an average of 196.5 seconds of screen time per appearance, are involved, I doubt they were in on anything.

Growing up, I rarely saw an Arab depicted in comedy who wasn't a sex-crazed sheik, muted and submissive harem slave or violent radical. Even as a child I recognized it as cruel and hurtful. Charlie Hebdo has shown these portrayals are as prevalent and problematic as ever, but also that excessive sensitivity can be more damaging.

Satire isn't an exact science. That's why it's art. But even the lowest-brow art is best when it challenges the audience's expectations — if not for the sake of social commentary, then just because upending clichés makes for better entertainment. When comedy instead supports ridicule, it only serves the privileged.

Omar Mouallem (@omar_aok) is based in Edmonton and edits the Yards. Social Discourse appears every other Wednesday.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

"Asking advertisers to stop exploiting our insecurities is naive"

Protein World just wanted to sell some diet pills.

Instead, the company has raised women's ire over a sexed-up ad campaign on the London Underground featuring a bikini-clad woman.

"The image features bold writing asking commuters 'Are you beach body ready?' when it might as well say 'Do you feel rubbish yet?'" wrote protester Tara Costello.

Women are defacing the ads. There's a "taking back the beach" rally planned and a petition to get the ads removed, which the transit authority is sidestepping since the ads are set to come down today.

Stop trying to make us feel bad, the protesters are demanding. Fat chance.

"That's what advertising does," said Jacqueline Lambiase, professor at Texas Christian University, who's been researching sex and women in the media for 25 years.

Advertising preys on our emotions, an idea, Lambiase noted, that goes back to Aristotle, and manipulates our insecurities, a tactic devised in the early 1900s to sell mouthwash and used ever since.

Asking advertisers to stop creating insecurities and exploiting existing ones is naive.

Even companies that seem to be selling an enlightened view of women — Always' #LikeAGirl Super Bowl ad and Dove's #choosebeautiful campaign — have one basic goal, and it's not boosting your female empowerment. It's getting your money.

"I'm pretty skeptical about those kinds of attempts," Lambiase told me. "Brands are only trying to sell themselves. They can't really do anything else in the world."

If you want to praise Dove's #choosebeautiful campaign (which has appeared in this newspaper and tells women: "Beautiful is a choice. One you make every single day"), praise it on the only measure it deserves: sales figures.

Yes, we should still fight the worst offenders, even when it raises their profile (as the backlash has for Protein World). It's well known that ads can negatively impact self-esteem and body image.

But, as Lambiase argued, we also need to boost our resilience against these messages through better media literacy, especially in an age of heightened sexualization, where what was considered pornography in the 1960s is now fair game for advertisers.

There is no healthy image of womanhood, or personhood, in an industry that only sees consumers. There are no allies in the advertising business, and you can't bully Victoria's Secret into doing anything less than making you feel incomplete without their bras.

The key isn't to ask advertisers to sell us a nicer story. It's to stop listening.

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Beer: It's not just for BBQs

FOOD AND DRINK

Picking the right brew can take your meal to the next level

Food lovers need not turn to wine and cocktails when they want to enjoy a meal.

Metro talked to Toronto-based brew specialist Mirella Amato and Elyse Carlucci of Blue Point Brewing Company in the U.S. about how to best pair beer with different dishes.

"I've come up with a two-step system that will yield a decent pairing. It might yield a delicious pairing, but it will certainly yield a solid one," said Amato.

The first step is intensity. Both Amato and Carlucci say you want to match the intensity of your beer with the intensity of the dish you intend to pair it with.

"If I have a light salad and I pair that with a really roasty, full-bodied, Russian imperial stout, I'm not going to be able to taste my salad," says Amato, author of Beerology: Everything You Need to Know to Enjoy Beer ... Even More, which includes a chapter on beer pairings.

"If I have a thick stew with vegetables and spices and meat and I pair that with a light lager, the flavour of the lager will be completely lost."

Amato says the second step is not in any of the literature she's read — it's more of an insider tip.

"Line up the colour intensity of your beer with the colour intensity of the main ingredient of your dish."

Carlucci says while you can do contrast pairings, they are difficult for novices to pull off.

She does, however, recommend contrast pairings for newbies in one situation: "If you're looking to cool down the heat in a really spicy dish, contrast it with wheat beers, like white styles or pilsners. That's the only time where a contrast for novices might be a good thing."

Here, Amato and Carlucci share some of their favourite pairings for different foods. A list of Canadian options provided by Amato is included at the end of each category.

Bier Markt's Merchant Burger is paired with a Red Racer by Central City Brewing at their King Street location in Toronto. Beer expert Mirella Amato says British-style pale ales have a complexity of flavours that go really well with a burger. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Fish: Amato and Carlucci agree that wheat beers are a safe bet for most fish dishes.

"Belgian-style wheat beers have orange peel and coriander and that yields citrus flavours, which of course go great with fish," says Amato.

"There's also no bitterness, which can sometimes combine with an oilier fish to give a slightly unpleasant taste."

Examples:

- Mill Street's Belgian Wit (Ontario)
- Garrison's Nit Wit (Nova Scotia)
- Driftwood Brewery's White Bark (British Columbia)

Chicken or pork: "You can go with a more traditional lager style," says Carlucci of medium-bodied proteins.

"Stick with medium intensity beers that have more flavour, but not a lot of hops."

Carlucci suggests Blue Point Toasted Lager and Anchor Brewing Breckle's Brown.

Amato takes it back to her colour principle.

"If you are looking to pair beer with chicken or white fish, you want to go with a gold to pale amber beer. If you're getting into salmon, pork, lentils, you want a deeper amber beer."

Examples:

- Golden lager, like Tree Brewing's Beach Blonde (British Columbia)
- Golden ale, like Boréale Blonde (Quebec)
- Kölsch-style ale, like Beau's Lug-Tread Lagered Ale (Ontario)
- Märzen, like Paddock Wood's Red Hammer (Saskatchewan)
- Bock, like Hoyne The Big Bock (British Columbia)
- American-style pale ale, like Great Lakes Canuck Pale Ale (Ontario)
- Saison, like Hopfenstark's Saison Station 16 (Quebec)

Classic burger: "I enjoy my burgers with either a British style pale ale or a British style brown ale. That brown colour lines up nicely with the meat. And of course, with burger, it's extremely rare that you're going to have it plain — there's a lot of flavours there and British-style ales have a complexity of flavours," says Amato.

Examples:

- Picaroons Best Bitter (New Brunswick).
- Central City Brewers Red Racer (British Columbia).
- Black Oak's Nut Brown Ale (Ontario)

Veggie Curry: "If you are eating a curry vegetarian dish, try the Blue Point Mosaic Session IPA or Firestone Walker Pivo Hoppy Pilsner," says Carlucci. "Both have aromatic hops, but not the bitter taste you might expect from IPA styles."

For something like a Thai-style veggie curry, Amato says a triple works well. "You want a beer with enough carbonation to cut through the richness and maybe a bit of bitterness as well."

Example:

- Unibroue's La Fin Du Monde (Quebec)

Desserts: Pairing beer with desserts all depends on what you're serving.

"If you like more fruity desserts, there are some really good fruit lambics out there and that's a great style for someone who likes fruitier cocktails or has a sweeter palate," says Carlucci.

"There are a lot of great beers out there that have fruit undertones."

As for heavier desserts like a dark chocolate mousse, Amato says you can go two ways.

"A really intensely fruity fruit beer is delightful because then you get the chocolate and fruit thing."

She also recommends a Barley wine, "a really thick, chewy beer — it has got a roundness to it, which mirrors the mousse nicely, but it also has a higher alcohol content to cut through the richness."

Examples:

- Mill Street's Barley Wine (Ontario)
- Garrison Ol' Fog Burner (Nova Scotia)
- Central City Brewing's Thor's Hammer Barley Wine (British Columbia)
- Amsterdam's Framboise (Ontario).
- St Ambroise's Framboise (Quebec)

EMINA GAMULIN/METRO
WITH FILES FROM ANDREA PARK

It's a crackin' good time

MARITIME TREAT

Lobster best enjoyed in casual setting, chef says

For many Canadians, lobster is a dress-up, special-occasion food eaten at a fancy restaurant.

"But it should be the total opposite," says Alain Bosse, a.k.a. The Kilted Chef, of Pictou County, N.S.

"You should be dressing down and eating it at your picnic table."

The food consultant and "ambassador of all things culinary in Atlantic Canada" says the Maritimes "have the best lobster in the world."

"We have the most pristine water and because of our cold climate, our shells are harder and meatier. We end up with a good, hard-shelled quality lobster that's full of meat, versus a soft-shell lobster that's moulting," he says.

"And we sell more lobster than anywhere else in the world, Maine included."

The Halifax-based Lobster Council of Canada's executive director, Geoff Irvine, confirms Canada provides more than half the world's supply of live and processed hard-shell Atlantic lobster, with an export value last year of $1.5 billion.

A little education takes the intimidation factor out of cooking lobster. ISTOCK

The industry is highly regulated, Irvine says.

The Atlantic Coast (there's no lobster on the West Coast) is divided into 41 "lobster fishery areas" (LFAs), each with its own "season" — a starting and finishing date. Fishers are licensed for specific areas. May and December are peak production times, but at least one LFA is in operation in any given month.

These staggered seasons encourage sustainability but also protect summer moults. Lobsters shed their shells to grow and are at their best when the new shells have hardened and are full of meat.

About 40 per cent of the lobster catch is delivered live to customers and 60 per cent is processed into "literally hundreds of products," Irvine says.

Despite accessibility to fresh lobster, Bosse still calls it a "wonderful treat." But that accessibility may explain a more casual approach to a lobster dinner in the Maritimes, including roadside "pounds" where the only accompaniments may be a paper plate and plastic utensils.

"Typically in Atlantic Canada, we eat lobster cold, dipped in hot butter," he says. "And we always eat it either with french fries, potato salad or french bread."

Cooking tips

• If unfamiliar with the crustacean, a great way to start is to buy it — raw or cooked — already fully or partly removed from the shell. That eliminates the issues of dropping live lobsters into boiling water to cook and of wrestling the meat out of the full shell.

• Overcooking is probably the most common mistake, Bosse says. A 625-gram (1.25-pound) raw lobster "takes about 12 minutes in boiling water or steamed and you only add a minute per quarter-pound (125 g). A lobster tail, stuffed with butter and baked in the oven, takes six or eight minutes at 350 or 400 F (180 or 200 C)."

• Lobster meat is cooked "when it starts to become opaque — a nice white colour." For whole lobster, if you pull the tentacle and it releases fairly easily, the lobster's cooked.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HEALTH-WISE

Hard-shell lobster has fewer than 100 calories per 100-gram serving, with 89 per cent of calories from protein. It's low in fat and carbohydrates, has virtually no saturated fats and is a good source of vitamins and minerals.

WINE

Chard helps seafood sing

LIQUID ASSETS

Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy

When I began my journey down the long and winding wine road, meeting winemakers face-to-face was the only way, with no Internet, to get an insider's peek under a winery's tent.

A recent tasting with Margo Van Staaveren, the longtime winemaker at California's Chateau St Jean, reminded me that it's still hard to beat that kind of interaction.

Founded in 1973, St Jean has been a Golden State pioneer when it comes to wines produced from specific vineyards.

While Van Staaveren creates plenty of liquid magic from those individual plots, her straightforward Chateau St Jean 2012 Sonoma County Chardonnay ($18.95-$19.99) represents her efforts equally as well.

Like me, she's an unabashed Chardonnay fan and the soft, tropical fruit and balanced, buttery oak influence in this chard tastes as good on its own as it does with rich seafood and dishes dominated by springtime veggies. PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

SEASONAL

Go on, spring a leek

WORD OF MOUTH

Theresa Albert
myfriendinfood.com

One of the first greens to pop up in the spring are wild leeks. Foraging for food is a hipster renewal of ancient skills and I like the reinforcement of the idea that food comes from the earth, not the grocer.

Head north to forested areas where trees have dropped their leaves to a brown and thawed ground. For about three to four weeks after the frost has passed the only thing green will be clusters of dagger-like leaves about three inches tall and solid green with a red and white stem. Pull one or two to find a white bulb that smells distinctly like onion and you have hit pay dirt! Don't overharvest; leave half of each cluster to proliferate next season.

OK, so you don't want to forage but you do want to find leeks at the grocery store. The commercial variety has a thick, hardy stalk of stacked circular layers. The pale part is edible but the tops are too tough and can only be used in making stock.

Leeks have a milder, sweeter taste than onion and a much prettier presentation. Nutritionally, they are about the same with the exception that leeks have slightly less sugar and much more Vitamin A.

Some creative ways to use leeks, beyond the traditional leek and potato soup, include:

• Sauté an entire pan in butter and freeze in ice cube trays.

• Spread onto warm baguette and top with goat's cheese.

• Use as a base for quick sauces or soups.

• Blend with herbs and Greek yogurt for a great dip.

• Slice lengthwise and rinse well. Store in vinegar with salt in glass jars in the fridge for 24 hours to "pickle". Serve with sandwiches and keep refrigerated for up to two weeks. THERESA IS AN ON-CAMERA FOOD AND HEALTH EXPERT, NUTRITIONIST AND WRITER WHO LOVES TO SPREAD THE WORD ON FOOD.

AWARDS

Oola named best food website by Webbys

Food lovers on the lookout for new online content to consume may want to look towards the winners of the Webby Awards, which this year crowned Oola the best food and drink-related website on the Internet.

With the tagline "Feed Your Inner Foodie," Oola is designed as a comprehensive one-stop shop that includes recipes, feature articles, cooking tips and restaurant recommendations.

In 11 Tasty Twists on Mac and Cheese, the comfort food is stuffed in meatballs, mixed in pancake batter, sandwiched between slices of bread, topped on pizza dough and burgers, and scrambled with eggs.

Operated by Gateway Media out of St. Louis, Mo., the site could be described as a more pared-down, consumer-oriented version of Serious Eats and The Daily Meal, and a more contemporary version of Epicurious.com, this year's recipient of the People's Voice award.

In the mobile category for food and drink, Distiller, a specialized site for whiskey lovers, took the top award, while Chefs Feed, which provides restaurant recommendations written by major chef names such as Mario Batali and David Chang, took the People's Voice award. AFP

Oola is designed as a one-stop shop for foodies. OOLA.COM/AFP

IN BRIEF

UberEATS expands

UberEATS, from the fast-growing yet controversial taxi app, is now serving Chicago and New York City, Uber announced on Tuesday.

The on-demand meal service promises to get clients the best meals from the top local restaurants in under 10 minutes. Items will typically be between $9 and $13, in addition to a $4 delivery charge, to select city locations during lunchtime. AFP

Repeat winners abound at James Beard Awards

Anthony Bourdain, Ina Garten and Martha Stewart remain the names to beat in food broadcasting.

The three dominated the top tier of television awards from the James Beard Foundation, winning for the same shows in the same categories as in 2014: Bourdain for best on-location program (The Mind of a Chef); Garten for outstanding host (Barefoot Contessa); and Stewart for in-studio program (Martha Stewart's Cooking School). THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For Obama, Abe, fusion food with Hawaiian twist

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's visit to the White House on Tuesday left some time for haute cuisine.

At a state dinner Abe, President Barack Obama and hundreds of guests tucked into food that links Japan and the U.S., with a touch of influence from Obama's home state of Hawaii.

Courses included guest chef Masaharu Morimoto's Toro Tartare and Caesar Sashimi Salad and roasted American wagyu beef with spring vegetables. For dessert, the American-style cheesecake got a spin with silken tofu and soy milk. AFP

Desserts for the Japanese State Dinner SAUL LOEB/AFP

Showing off their stretch marks

BEAUTY

Two moms and an Instagram account are changing body image attitudes

Karly Vedan was 9 when she first noticed stretch marks popping on her legs.

"I grew pretty tall really fast," she said. "They looked really creepy, like something scratched my knees."

Well, fast forward more than a decade and her lines have lots of company. Before giving birth a year ago to an adorable son, at 35 weeks into her pregnancy, lines had taken over her tummy.

"At first I was just kind of scared," said the 21-year-old Canadian student in Edmonton, Alta. "It looked so weird, like I had a bunch of spider veins all over my stomach ... I asked my doctor about it and they said those are just stretch marks, don't worry about it."

She heeded that advice and was overjoyed a few months back when she stumbled on an Instagram campaign urging other women to do the same.

The effort that has resonated with Vedan and hundreds of other women was started about seven months ago by moms Alex Elle, a writer, and Erika Layne Salazar, a photographer. Aptly dubbed Love Your Lines, they put up an Instagram account of that name and spread the word for one and all to email them photos of their stretch marks and how they feel about them, especially in relation to today's idealized standards of skinny, unmarred perfection.

Swamped with images, they're still going strong, giving birth to the popular hashtag LoveYourLines used by posters showing off their own marks on Instagram, Tumblr and elsewhere across social media.

Setting the effort apart from other woman power and esteem-boosting campaigns is the fact that Elle and Salazar transform each image into high-art black and white as a way to avoid distraction from the marks themselves and the stories behind them.

"For me, Love Your Lines was a way to make women feel safe about their bodies," said Elle, in Rockville, Md. "We wanted a platform where women could be themselves. Initially it was just going to be a fine art photography collection where I would be interviewing the women and Erika would be taking the photos. Then it just kind of went crazy."

Some contributors, like Vedan, have allowed themselves to be identified by the posting of their traceable Instagram handles. Others, like a recent nameless submission, have spoken of suicide.

"No man will love me or choose me when there are so many beautiful & lovely women out there," wrote one who submitted a close up of her belly and identified herself as a childless 24-year-old. "I will never be at peace with my lines. My body issues consume me at every waking moment."

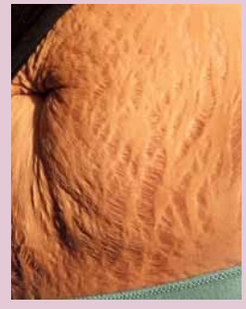
Nearly 300 people, at the urging of Elle and Salazar in an accompanying comment, have offered her comments of love and encouragement.

"Women are absolutely beautiful the way that they are and they don't have to be airbrushed to be beautiful," Elle said in a recent phone interview with Salazar. "I feel like we're coming into a time where women are starting to accept that they're beautiful, flaws and all. We're so much more alike than we think."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ONLINE A CARING COMMUNITY

A sharing space



Love Your Lines has become a rally call for body positivity.

With the promise of anonymity to all who want it, women from around the world are pouring out their seemingly sincerest joys, anxieties and despair over their marks, loose postpartum bellies and battle wounds from valiant fights against cancer.

Karly Vedan, 21, shows off her stretch marks on the beach. She's found a community of other women who embrace their unique marks through Love Your Lines. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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French actresses Marion Cotillard and Léa Seydoux will star in Juste La Fin Du Monde by Canadian director Xavier Dolan. GETTY

Dolan thrilled with talent in Juste La Fin Du Monde

XAVIER DOLAN

Director's latest tells story of man announcing his pending death

Production is set to begin next month on Xavier Dolan's next film, a French-language feature starring Marion Cotillard, Léa Seydoux and Vincent Cassel.

Dolan says he's thrilled to work with such "inspiring talent" on It's Only the End of the World (Juste La Fin Du Monde). The Canada-France co-production also stars Nathalie Baye and Gaspard Ulliel.

The film is based on a play by Jean-Luc Lagarce of the same name.

It centres on a writer who returns to his hometown, planning to announce his upcoming death to his family.

Dolan says he was introduced to the play many years ago by muse Anne Dorval, whose Dolan credits include Mommy and I Killed My Mother.

The Quebec writer/director says he will shoot the film in late May before starting on his first English-language project, The Life and Death of John F. Donovan, starring Kit Harington and Jessica Chastain.

> **It's humbling to translate someone's world, someone's intimate creation to the screen.**
> Director Xavier Dolan

Dolan says he hopes It's Only the End of the World could bridge the genre chasm between his mother-son drama Mommy and John F.

"It's the second time I'm adapting a play and I have to admit that so far, for me, novels and plays have been the regal road to screenwriting," Dolan said in a release.

"I love adaptations and they challenge me in a different way. It's humbling to translate someone's world, someone's intimate creation to the screen. It's a big responsibility. And it's a risk. So that's all very, very inspiring."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GOSSIP NOTES What people are talking about this week

McDreamy McTardy?

Ned Ehrbar
In Hollywood

Now that you've recovered from the sudden death of Patrick Dempsey's Grey's Anatomy character, it's time to dig into exactly why McDreamy had to go and slip this mortal TV coil.

"Shonda (Rhimes) had no other choice but to fire Patrick. He had been showing up late and was holding up production because he couldn't remember his lines," a source tells Radar Online.

"Shonda shouldn't be blamed. This is on Patrick and no one else."

And apparently Rhimes gave Dempsey a chance to fix his behaviour, but he didn't take it.

Michelle who?

A British soap star you've probably never heard of, at least according to FHM, is apparently the hottest woman on the planet. The lad magazine has dubbed Coronation Street star Michelle Keegan 2015's Sexiest Woman in the World after coming in second last year.

Kendall Jenner takes second place this year, while Jennifer Lawrence, last year's title-holder, drops to third. The list — which tallies up 100 women — was determined via an online poll, with more than 1 million votes cast.

Sure, fine, but we're really saying Kendall Jenner is sexier than Jennifer Lawrence? I don't think I can get on board with this.

Adams to wed

Amy Adams is getting married this weekend, and honestly it's about damn time.

The American Hustle star has been with fiancé Darren Le Gallo for 14 years, and they've been engaged since 2008, but they're just now finally getting around to sealing the deal.

"The guest list is being kept very small, and she has kept the location very much under wraps," a source tells Page Six.]

So what's taken so long?

Adams' very busy acting career apparently kept getting in the way.

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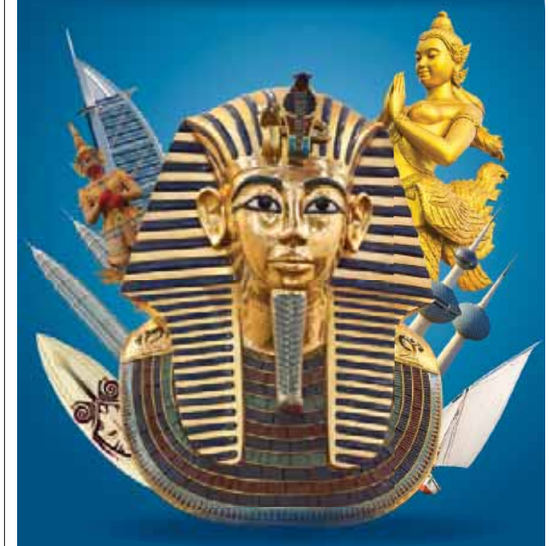

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You're never really dead on The X-Files

David Duchovny, Gillian Anderson and director Chris Carter stand together during the British Columbia production of the 2008 film The X-Files: I Want to Believe. They will be returning for a new six-episode series. DIYAH PERA/20TH CENTURY FOX HANDOUT

INTERVIEW WITH CREATOR

The Smoking Man is back but don't expect a Mulder and Scully sex scene

X-Files creator Chris Carter returns to Vancouver to shoot a new batch of his sci-fi tales, picking up eight years after we last saw paranormal experts Fox Mulder and Dana Scully.

In addition to stars David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson, Carter says fans can expect Mitch Pileggi to return as Walter Skinner and William B. Davis as "The Smoking Man," even though that character was killed off.

"As we say in The X-Files, even though you're dead, you're never really dead," says Carter, adding there's "a big chance" the Lone Gunmen will also return.

Carter is at a Vancouver International Film Festival industry reception Wednesday in honour of National Canadian Film Day. He talked about how things will play out in the new episodes.

What will we see in these six new episodes? Are they standalone or serialized?

You really get what you have come to expect with The X-Files, which is a combination of the ongoing Mulder and Scully conspiracy saga, relationship and standalone episodes that will come interspersed. That said, it will all be of a piece, meaning that it won't feel disconnected. It'll all feel as if it's taking place in what I would call television "real time."

What is their relationship?

As we saw in the second movie they were together, not married. Living together. But when we come back we will find that relationship is not where we left it.

Fans still haven't gotten a proper love scene. Mulder and Scully had a child together, so why was their relationship never explicitly consummated?

It was part of the mystery of The X-Files. That relationship was kind of mysterious. Did they get together? Didn't they get together? If they've got a child together, when did they get together? These are questions that we will deal with and answer in good time.

How have they changed?

They've grown up. They've matured, their sensibilities have matured, their relationship has matured and evolved.

You know during the course of the show, Scully the skeptic actually became the believer and Mulder the believer actually became the skeptic and then that switched back. So there have been many changes. ... These characters who are true to themselves have gone through many changes and we'll play that in this series of six.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ORLANDO EYE

Wallenda prepares for craziest stunt yet

Nik Wallenda wipes his forehead during a high-wire act in San Juan, Puerto Rico in 2011. RICARDO ARDUENGO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In the days leading up to one of his craziest stunts ever, tightrope walker Nik Wallenda has done the following: drop his kid off at school, paint windowsills, mow the lawn.

"It's not like I'm preparing for the end of my life," laughs the 36-year-old Sarasota, Florida, resident. "I'm a father, a husband and a homeowner."

One with a highly unusual, risky job. Born into a famous family of daredevils, Wallenda has traversed a tightrope stretched across the Grand Canyon, Niagara Falls and in between skyscrapers in Chicago.

On Wednesday, Wallenda will walk untethered atop the 400-foot high Orlando Eye, the city's new, flashy observation Ferris wheel — as it spins.

He won't use a balancing pole and won't have a safety net. The walk will be broadcast live on NBC's Today.

"As far as events for me, fairly stressful and demanding. I guess there's more of a comfort zone on a wire," he said.

Wallenda will board the giant Ferris wheel, taking a passenger capsule to the top. He'll then have to climb out of the capsule and down a ladder, he said, then walk on the outer rim as it spins.

He said that unless there's a "torrential downpour: he will perform the stunt as planned. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Anime series Dragon Ball to return in July

The ever popular Dragon Ball franchise is returning to television in July with its first anime series in 18 years, announced Japan's Toei Animation on Tuesday.

Produced with Fuji Television and penned by its original creator Akira Toriyama, Dragon Ball Super will follow the aftermath of Goku's fierce battle with Majin Buu as he attempts to hold fragile peace on Earth.

AFP

Harriet Tubman story adapted for small screen

Viola Davis will play HBO's Harriet Tubman, the activist who helped create the Underground Railroad that allowed hundreds of slaves to escape to freedom.

Davis is developing the telepic with Amblin TV and writer Kirk Ellis, who helped write the HBO John Adams miniseries, and Entourage executive producer Doug Ellin, Variety reports.

AFP

The Avengers reassemble

The cast of Age of Ultron battles out-of-control AI onscreen — and in real life they're not so sure about tech. Here the cast talks about what gadgets they embrace and what they fear. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Robert Downey Jr.

I feel you have to embrace it. You know, there's always that shadow play that goes on, particularly in entertainment where it just goes wild and takes over and all of that stuff. But look, it took over a while ago, metaphorically speaking, just by people who were just strung out on their iPhones.

Mark Ruffalo

You get into automated artificial intelligence weaponry, which is being developed now. ... Who knows where that's going to go but it's not an accident that as (Tesla CEO) Elon Musk and Stephen Hawking come out against artificial intelligence and say, 'Hey guys, this is scary. We should slow it down,' that this movie pops up in the collective subconscious.

Elizabeth Olsen

I can't advance with the times. My mother doesn't even know how to check her messages on her cellphone. So I'm my mother's daughter. My mom doesn't have email. I like technology for like, health improvement. I don't like technology for quicker information, faster.

Chris Hemsworth

I love robots. Especially if they can clean up around the house, change nappies and things like that. That's what I'm excited about. I want, like, talking robots, to tell them my problems and stuff like that. That will be a real plus for me.

Cobie Smulders

I still can't figure out how to use my phone. I'm just getting email. I'm just understanding that process. I feel like it's happening so rapidly and I just can't keep up with it.

Paul Bettany

(Technology) is a double-edged sword, isn't it? You can 3D-print an arm for a kid ... but also you can be cut off from your children. I sit with my children and play, and I hear my phone go 'beep.' And even if I don't go to it, I'm thinking (about it).

INTERVIEW

Paul Bettany is a futuristic Vision — but he can't hear you

Paul Bettany couldn't hear anything.

When the 43-year-old actor initially donned a noggin-encasing headpiece to portray the mysterious Vision in Avengers: Age of Ultron, in theatres Friday, Bettany could barely make out what anyone was saying around him. That isolation ended up fuelling his imposing performance in the followup to the 2012 smash that brought together Marvel's mightiest heroes.

"I would go to a place of real Zen, where I meditated on the line of thousands and thousands of actors that would love to be in my position in an uncomfortable suit," said Bettany in a recent interview at Disney Studios. "However, I would be lying to say it didn't take a great deal of (expletive) effort not to rip it off. They ended up drilling holes in it because I literally couldn't hear anything."

After five years of voicing Tony Stark's soothing operating system sidekick J.A.R.V.I.S. in the previous Avengers and Iron Man films, Bettany's role as the purple-skinned Vision marks the first time in front of the cameras in a Marvel film for the lanky British actor best known for starring in such films as Wimbledon, The Da Vinci Code and Priest.

"The first day I walked on set, Robert (Downey Jr.) made a lovely speech welcoming me," said Bettany. "Everybody was completely convivial and pleasant. They were making jokes — or at least I think they were making jokes because I couldn't hear a (expletive) thing. It's actually a really nice atmosphere on those sets. Often, it's not like that."

Bettany is portraying perhaps the best-kept secret of the second Avengers outing. In the comics, the commanding Vision is a type of android dubbed a "synthzoid" by Ultron, the nefarious robot that created him. The cinematic rendition is similarly fashioned by Ultron (played by James Spader as an evil artificial intelligence program).

However, this Vision might not be what he seems.

"He's an android, technically, but I would say he's what's next," said writer-director Joss Whedon.

"He's more evolved than the rest of us, which may prove to be a good thing or not. To me, this Vision feels like what it meant to me to read him as a kid. He has that calm distance but is also strangely emotional. Paul is just soooo phenomenal as him." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paul Bettany, who plays Vision in Avengers: Age of Ultron, could barely hear while wearing the costume's headpiece. CONTRIBUTED

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metro DRIVE

Your essential daily news

Rolls-Royce's Phantom Limelight Collection features leather, refined wood and embroidered interiors.

Evoque's beauty beyond skin deep

ROAD TESTED

REVIEW

Range Rover has compact crossover covered

Mike Goetz
Metro | Canada

The world domination of SUVs and crossovers has progressed through their unstoppable combination of AWD powertrains for all-weather and off-road prowess, a commanding tall-in-the-saddle driving experience, and doors and liftgates that open up to big interiors and cargo areas.

Looks are secondary.

Which makes the Range Rover Evoque, first introduced in 2012, so bloody interesting: It's a crossover that trades on its looks.

And it's not just fantastic looking for a crossover. It looks great, period. Our tester was a Dynamic, the Evoque's highest trim level, so was further bolstered in the looks department with 20-inch wheels, and more aggressive bumpers, tailpipes, and grille. It was also rendered in an awesome metallic shade of Orkney Grey. When I drove the beast to Detroit, it actually got a thumbs-up from the U.S. border guard.

The price to be paid for the sloping roofline at the rear, and smallish rear side-glass, is poor rearward visibility, and a rear seating area that is a bit claustrophobic and short on headroom. Evoque is also a "compact" crossover. It's shorter than a Ford Escape. So the cargo area is predictably tight, too.

Up front in the driver's cockpit, however, you are oblivious to such trifling things.

Everything that touches your body is luxurious, and everything in sight is "high style." I particularly like the rotary gear selector that rises slowly up from the console after the vehicle starts — very James Bond-ish — and the way the big infotainment screen is smoothly integrated in the dash. It doesn't look like an add-on as it does in lesser vehicles. The touchscreen itself, however, is a bit slow to respond, which wouldn't be so irritating if you didn't need it for so many regular functions, like changing radio stations and adjusting seat-warmer settings.

Once under the power of its Ford-sourced 2.0-litre turbocharged "four," it's evident Evoque is designed for spirited driving.

Land Rover made sure Evoque was especially light for its size, and the new torque vectoring system, called ActiveDriveline 4WD, means you can attack corners more quickly than you would otherwise. The ride is also quite firm. It gets even firmer with the low-profile tires on this Dynamic model.

Small and agile, the Evoque is effortlessly propelled by its 240-hp engine. The only glitch is a tendency to give you too much power, when you first dip into the throttle.

THE CHECKLIST | 2015 RANGE ROVER EVOQUE

THE BASICS

Type. Five-door, AWD, compact, luxury crossover
Engine (hp). 2.0-litre, inline, turbocharged four-cylinder (240)
Transmissions. Nine-speed automatic
Price. $49,270/$75,525

POINTS

- Lots of Ford-based engineering, as this current-generation Evoque (debuting in 2012) was conceived during the period when Ford owned Land Rover.
- Major mid-cycle update coming for model-year 2016 edition, landing later this year.
- Available in both two-door and four-door body styles.

COOL FEATURES

- New nine-speed automatic transmission added for model-year 2015.
- Optional 360-degree camera and self-parking systems.
- InControl allows some apps to look the same on the touchscreen as they do on your smartphone.

MARKET POSITION

- Evoque's twin is the new Discovery Sport (previously known as Land Rover LR2).
- Lightest and most fuel-efficient Range Rover ever produced.
- As all Range Rovers, Evoque is very capable off-road, and not just a pretty thing.

THE COMPETITION

Porsche Macan S
Base price: $58,315

Mercedes-Benz GLK
Base price: $50,595

Infiniti QX50
Base price: $36,945

SAFETY

Self-driving cars to save lives: Google exec

Self-driving vehicles hold the key to reducing traffic fatalities and will transform the automobile industry, a top Google executive predicted.

Ray Kurzweil, a leading expert in artificial intelligence who joined the Internet search giant in 2012, told the recent annual conference of the Society of Automotive Engineers that the rapidly declining cost of computing power and the advances in artificial intelligence will make autonomous driving a reality.

Kurzweil told the audience that autonomous driving, utilizing artificial intelligence, is definitely coming. "The technology works. It's not far away," said Kurzweil, though he was not prepared to say just when self-driving cars will become a common sight.

"Google advised me to share with you they don't know the answer ... The technology is not going to be introduced until it's ready."

The need and value of autonomous vehicles is clear, he told hundreds of the industry's top engineers. "Google cars have gone close to a million miles without incident," he said.

"Some day an autonomous car will cause an accident and it will be big news. But while we've been talking, several people have died from human drivers."

Autonomous cars "are ultimately going to save millions of lives," he said, noting that traffic accidents kill 1.2 million people worldwide a year now.

"They also provide more efficient use of roads and parking lots. There are a lot of benefits."

But he said Google was not going to let its self-drive cars into the market "until they're safe."

"They have to be much more reliable than the technology they replace."

The appearance of the original Google Car prototype touched off a race among the world's automakers. Ford, Mercedes-Benz, Volkswagen and Nissan have set up engineering centres near Google's headquarters in Silicon Valley, Calif., to focus on self-driving technologies.

"People will still buy cars," Kurzweil said. "But the Uber model with self-driving cars will become very popular.

"We should share our cars. I think that model will grow when we have autonomous cars. AFP

Google won't release its self-driving cars into the market "until they're safe." AFP PHOTO/GLENN CHAPMAN

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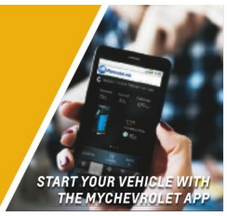

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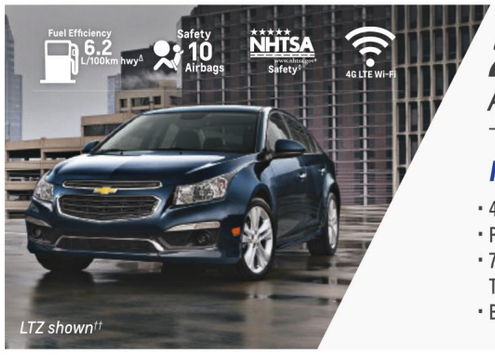

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Other cash credits available on most models. See dealer for details. ▼/*/♦♦/***Freight & PDI ($1,600/$1,650), registration, air and tire levies and OMVIC fees included. Insurance, licence, PPSA, dealer fees and applicable taxes not included. Offers apply as indicated to 2015 new or demonstrator models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Chevrolet Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais). Dealers are free to set individual prices. Quantities limited; dealer order or trade may be required. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers. GMCL may modify, extend or terminate offers, in whole or in part, at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ††2015 Cruze LTZ, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies: $28,639. 2015 Equinox 1LZ, MSRP with freight, PDI & levies: $39,164. 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Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive) and credit value depends on model purchased: $500 credit available on Chevrolet: Spark, Sonic, Cruze, Volt, Trax, Malibu (except LS), Buick Encore and Verano; $750 credit available on other Chevrolet, Buick and GMC vehicles (except Chevrolet: Colorado 2SA, Camaro Z28, Malibu LS, Silverado Light Duty and Heavy Duty, GMC: Canyon 2SA, Sierra Light Duty and Heavy Duty); $1,000 credit available on Cadillac vehicles (except 2015 Cadillac Escalade) and $1,000 on all Chevrolet Silverados and GMC Sierras. Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Limited (GMCL) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. 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AUTO NEWS STUDENTS DEVELOP SYSTEM TO PUT BRAKES ON DRUNK DRIVING

The team adjusts a concept model of AlcoStop. AFP

AlcoStop uses sensors in seats, steering wheel

If you've been drinking, you may not get far with AlcoStop, the automotive safety system designed by a group of students at the Institute of Technology of Cintalapa in Mexico. Unlike other devices of its kind, it doesn't require puffing into a breathalyzer device. Instead, sensors inlaid in the seat, shift lever and steering wheel — all capable of detecting the blood alcohol level of the person holding it — will disable the car if required. The system includes a GPS tracking unit that allows for real-time monitoring of the car's location should the would-be driver be too confused to explain where he or she is. In case the car is disabled, an accompanying application alerts family or friends to go and pick up the driver. AFP

The new Lincoln Continental seats. JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO

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Lincoln crafts new ways to sit

DESIGN

Seats in new sedan to be adjustable 30 ways

Jil McIntosh
For Metro

Is it possible to have too many choices? Lincoln doesn't think so, at least when it comes to seats: Those in its upcoming new Continental luxury sedan will be adjustable 30 different ways.

"We didn't set out to make 30 ways and say that's what it needed," says Scott Tobin, director of Lincoln product development. "But we started with an anthropometric study, and saw what support is needed to reduce fatigue while driving, and encourage circulation and comfort."

A lot goes into developing any new seat, primarily because so much is required of it. It has to fit a wide variety of body shapes and heights; it has to be comfortable, but not so squishy that it isn't supportive; it may have to accommodate electric adjustment motors and heating elements, if the car is so equipped; and it has to meet federally mandated standards for occupant safety in a crash. And on top of all of that, automakers have to try to make it as light as possible, because extra weight will affect fuel economy.

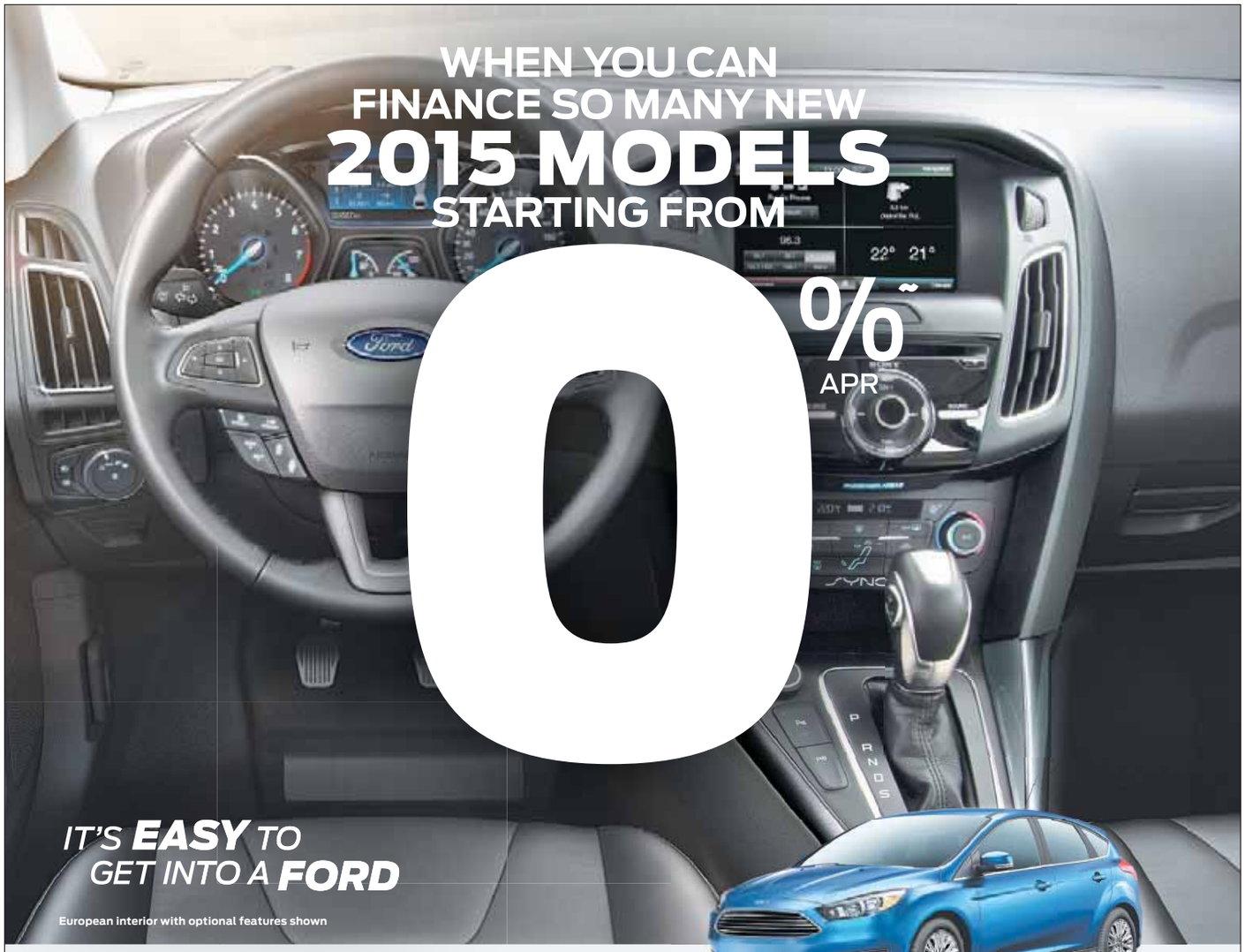
The Continental will be Lincoln's most luxurious model, and while the company has only shown a concept version so far, the seats are expected to stay virtually the same in the production model. The designers started with a metal frame and foam as with most seats, but the foam in this one is supported by a layer of polymer plastic.

"These have a different, more revolutionary support system that can flex with your body," Tobin says. "They're almost like a leaf spring, and they support the foam that supports the body. It's about keeping the lower back stable and solid, and then you can adjust for the upper back."

Bolsters on the sides of the seat help to keep the occupants in place, but unlike the solid foam bolsters that other manufacturers use, this Lincoln uses air-filled ones. They deflate when the door is opened, making it easier to slide in and out of the seat, but then pump back up again to provide support.

Perhaps the seat's most important innovation is its thigh support. Many vehicles have these, which slide forward or lift up from the seat to support the back of the knee, but Lincoln's are unique in that the support is split in half, and each side can be individually adjusted. The driver's legs are always at different positions, since one leg must work the throttle and brake, and these individual supports can handle any angle.

"We all naturally splay (our legs) when we sit, and the knee falls out," Tobin says. "You have to think about that. We're all different heights, and these cushion lengths need to be different because (otherwise) you can tweak your back after all day in the car."



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metro SPORTS

Peyton Manning says he feels good and doesn't see 2015 as a farewell tour

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Riots spawn closed-doors game at Camden Yards

BALTIMORE

Weekend series between Orioles, Rays shifts to Tampa

After two postponements caused by rioting in Baltimore, the Orioles and Chicago White Sox will play Wednesday at Camden Yards in what is believed to be the first game in major-league baseball's 145-season history without fans in the seats.

Because of the unsettled environment in Baltimore, where rioters burned a drug store and set police cars ablaze on Monday night, officials moved the game up five hours from its original 7:05 p.m. starting time and closed it to the public.

In addition, Baltimore's Friday-to-Sunday series against Tampa Bay was shifted from Camden Yards to Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg, Fla., with Baltimore remaining the home team and batting last.

"It's all about what's best for the city and the safety of our people," Orioles manager Buck Showalter said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "The last thing you want to do is put the fans in harm's way. You have to err on the side of safety."

Looting and rock- and bottle-throwing by rioters broke out Monday just hours after the funeral of Freddie Gray, a 25-year-old man who suffered a fatal spinal cord injury while in police custody.

Schools were closed Tuesday and the mayor imposed a 10 p.m.-to-5 a.m. curfew. The announcement of the unique closed-doors game came late Tuesday afternoon, after the Orioles postponed games against Chicago on Monday and Tuesday.

"We were just trying to respond to the wishes of the public officials and protect the integrity of the schedule," Dan Duquette, the Orioles executive vice-president of baseball operations, said in a phone interview.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police stand guard outside Oriole Park at Camden Yards on Monday in Baltimore.
GREG FIUME/GETTY IMAGES

746

Since 1987, the lowest attendance for a game has been 746 when the White Sox hosted the Blue Jays at Comiskey Park on April 9, 1997, according to STATS.

PERSPECTIVE

Orioles COO John Angleos unleashed a series of Tweets Saturday night in defence of those protesting in Baltimore. Here is an excerpt of those Tweets condensed for clarity:

"The innocent working families of all backgrounds whose lives and dreams have been cut short by excessive violence, surveillance, and other abuses of the bill of rights by government pay the true price, an ultimate price, and one that far exceeds the importance of any kids' game played tonight, or ever, at Camden Yards. We need to keep in mind people are suffering and dying around the US and while we are thankful no one was injured at Camden Yards, there is a far bigger picture for poor Americans in Baltimore and everywhere who don't have jobs and are losing economic civil and legal rights and this makes inconvenience at a ball game irrelevant in light of the needless suffering government is inflicting upon ordinary Americans."

The Jays' Edwin Encarnacion scores past catcher Ryan Hanigann on Tuesday in Boston. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Jays run off with win over Red Sox

Jose Bautista had an RBI in Toronto's five-run third inning, another in a three-run fourth and then added a homer to help the Blue Jays beat the Boston Red Sox 11-8 on Tuesday night and snap a four-game losing streak.

Josh Donaldson had three hits, including a homer, and Kevin Pillar also had three of Toronto's 17 hits. Marco Estrada (1-0) pitched three innings of hitless relief for the win. Brett Cecil pitched the ninth for his first save.

The Red Sox took a 4-0 lead against Drew Hutchison in the second. But Clay Buchholz (1-3) gave the lead right back, allowing five in the top of the third. Buchholz got just eight outs while allowing five runs — four earned — on six hits and a walk while striking out four.

Hutchison lasted four innings and gave up six runs.

The Blue Jays led 10-6 when Aaron Loup struck out Mookie Betts and Dustin Pedroia to start the eighth. But David Ortiz doubled, and Hanley Ramirez hit his 200th career homer to make it 10-8, then Pablo Sandoval singled — his fourth hit of the game.

Liam Hendriks got Allen Craig on a first-pitch one-hopper back to the mound to end the inning. Donaldson added a solo homer in the ninth to make it 11-8.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UFC

Jones faces hit-and-run felony charge

UFC light heavyweight champion Jon (Bones) Jones has made his first court appearance in connection with a hit-and-run that police say left a pregnant woman with a broken arm.

Jones appeared in an Albuquerque, N.M., court with his lawyer Tuesday and left without speaking to reporters. He is facing a felony charge of leaving the scene of an accident involving death or personal injuries.

Jones was released Monday on a $2,500 bond.

A judge did not impose travel restrictions on Jones.

According to police, witnesses said that Jones ran from a crash Sunday that hospitalized a pregnant woman but quickly came back to grab "a large handful of cash" from the car.

Authorities say the accident occurred in southeastern Albuquerque when the driver of a rented SUV ran a red light.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Cavs' Love likely out for remainder of playoffs

Kevin Love spent all those long, losing seasons in Minnesota aching for a chance to be part of the NBA playoffs. His first foray into them lasted less than four games.

Love sustained "extensive" damage in his left shoulder and will likely miss the remainder of Cleveland's playoff run.

Cleveland is waiting to see if it will play Chicago or Milwaukee in the next round. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOXING

A-list crowd to take in superfight

Tickets are at such a premium to see Floyd Mayweather Jr. and Manny Pacquiao's long-awaited matchup that all of those seated at ringside will be the recognizable, the rich — and the very lucky.

There should be no lack of celebrities — including Jay Z and Justin Bieber — among the 16,800 ticket holders.

Only 500 of the tickets, however, were offered to the public, and they sold in seconds.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Floyd Mayweather Jr., left, and Manny Pacquiao
STEPHEN DUNN/GETTY IMAGES

NBA PLAYOFFS ROCKETS OUST MAVS IN FIVE GAMES
The Mavericks' Al-Farouq Aminu is fouled by the Rockets' Terrence Jones during Game 5 of their first-round series on Tuesday in Houston. James Harden scored 28 points and the Rockets won 103-94 to clinch the series.
DAVID J. PHILLIP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ujiri needs time to cool off

RAPTORS

GM says early playoff exit won't cause rash decisions

The wounds are still fresh, the disappointment still burns.

Just two days after the Toronto Raptors were "punched in the face" by the Washington Wizards, GM Masai Ujiri said he'll take some time determining the direction of the squad — including the fate of coach Dwane Casey — rather than make changes when emotions are high.

"Everybody is going to be held accountable, everybody is going to be evaluated," Ujiri said Tuesday. "There's no doomsday here, honestly. This is not as dramatic as we are making it.

"It's just that we want to win here, we want to keep building. I think the process is you sometimes get kicked in the face and we got kicked in the face and now we have to go back to the drawing board."

Toronto was humiliated in a four-game opening-round sweep by Washington, culminating in Sunday night's 125-94 rout. It was a "disappointing" ending to a season that had several positives, said Ujiri, who proceeded to list them off: A second straight Atlantic Division title, a franchise-record 49 wins, an NBA Sixth Man of the Year in Lou Williams, an all-star in Kyle Lowry and a great fan base.

> **"I knew who Paul Pierce is. He's a killer, he's one of those that you want on your team.**
> Masai Ujiri

"Coach Casey has created or helped create a good culture here," Ujiri said. "The base is very good for us and he's a big part of our base."

Of one thing Ujiri is certain, he won't be cursing in public anytime soon. The GM was fined by the NBA for the second straight playoffs after he swore in reference to Paul Pierce when addressing fans in Maple Leaf Square. Ujiri was fined $35,000 US and the Raptors an additional $25,000 US.

"I'm a competitor and I'm not going to back down ... it was my way of supporting our team, supporting our organization, our fan base, which is something I'll always do," Ujiri said. "Was it stupid that I went out there and said that? I apologize for cursing... I'm not going to do it again." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Serving size: 4

Ingredients

Burgers
- 2 cups vegetable stock (or water)
- 1/2 cup pearl barley
- 4 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 cup diced onion
- 1/2 cup diced carrots
- 2 cups diced mushrooms (any variety)
- 3/4 cup seasoned dry breadcrumbs
- 1 egg
- 1 1/2 tsp crushed garlic
- 1 tsp hot chili sauce or to taste
- 1/3 cup chopped cilantro
- 1 tsp low-sodium soy sauce
- pinch of salt and pepper

Tahini sauce
- 1 Tbsp tahini (sesame seed paste)
- 1 Tbsp light mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup low-fat plain yogurt
- 1/2 tsp crushed garlic
- 1 tsp low-sodium soy sauce
- 3 Tbsp chopped cilantro

Directions

1. Bring the stock and barley to a boil, cover and simmer for 30 minutes. Drain and set aside.

2. Meanwhile heat a large, nonstick skillet and add 2 tsp of the oil and the onion and sauté for 3 minutes. Add the carrots and sauté for 3 minutes. Add the mushrooms and sauté for 8 minutes or until the vegetables are tender and no liquid remains.

3. Add the barley and vegetable mixture to the bowl of a food processor. Add the breadcrumbs, egg, garlic, chili sauce, cilantro, soy sauce and salt and pepper. Process just until still slightly coarse. Form the mixture into 4 burgers.

4. Lightly coat a large, nonstick skillet with cooking spray and the remaining oil, then cook burgers for 3 minutes per side.

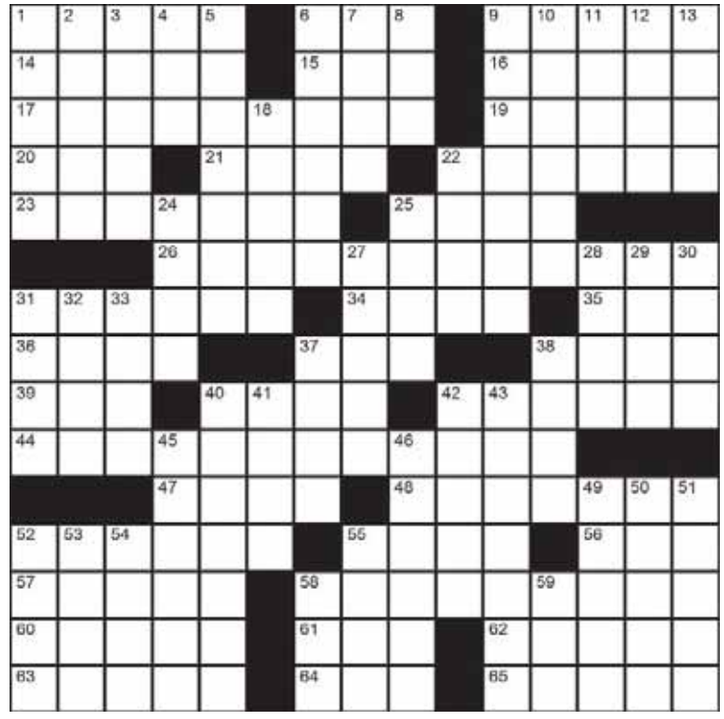
5. To make the sauce, whisk the tahini, mayonnaise, yogurt, garlic, soy sauce and cilantro together in a small bowl and serve with the burgers.

Nutrition information per serving
- Calories 322
- Protein 10 g
- Carbohydrates 46 g
- Fibre 6.5 g
- Total fat 11 g
- Saturated fat 1.8 g
- Cholesterol 55 mg
- Sodium 490 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



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19. Heroic poems
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21. Not that
22. Lauds
23. __ headache
25. Foe of the Allies in WWII
26. 'The __ __ Province' (Nickname for Manitoba because of its early shape and small size)
31. Bring into harmony
34. Light fog
35. Toronto Maple Leafs centre Mr. Komarov
36. Mr. Penn
37. German article
38. Scottish family
39. Apiece
40. Big bits
42. Keenness
44. Smouldering stretch seen from Franklin Bay in the Northwest Territories: 2 wds.
47. Mr. Andreoff, LA Kings player born in Pickering, ON
48. Cinderella's is glass
52. Non-printed fabrics
55. Blackthorn fruit
56. Leandro's beloved
57. Awry
58. Canadian singer of current tune "Sound of Your Heart": 2 wds.
60. Brief movie role
61. Particle
62. Uptight
63. Bouillon/soup mix brand
64. Curtains holder
65. British singer Leo

DOWN
1. Night: German
2. Earthy pigment
3. Wooden
4. "Good Will Hunting" (1997) univ.
5. Version
6. Grievance
7. Sleep stages, commonly
8. Sharp bark
9. Arcade Fire song that goes "They walk in the room / And stare right through you...": 2 wds.
10. Meal
11. Seed covering
12. Ancient Scot
13. Meeting [abbr.]
18. Selected
22. Married-no-mores
24. Twirled
25. Opposin'
27. "Witness" (1985) folk
28. Josh Groban/Kelly Clarkson duet: "__ _ Ask of You"
29. Vegan's no-no
30. Baby horse
31. Some snakes
32. Abound
33. Tropical tuber
37. Irritable
38. Crescent moon point
40. 'City of Roses' in Ontario
41. Conjunctions
42. Permit
43. Entrepreneur's customers
45. Sandwich roll
46. Cape Breton __
49. Spring flower
50. Jagged
51. "Today" weatherman Al
52. Large bag
53. Sultanate of the Arabian Peninsula
54. Celeb's ride
55. "Begone!"
58. Aristocratic title
59. "Isn't __ _ bit like..." - Beatles, "Nowhere Man"

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Opportunities to better yourself won't be hard to find over the next few days, so stay alert and be ready to act when you get the chance. Nothing is impossible if you want it enough.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Let your mind roam where it will over the next 24 hours. Give yourself permission to dream. The dreams you have may seem far-fetched to some but chances are it won't be long before they are no longer dreams but realities.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You may not be happy with some of the changes taking place at the moment but your instincts tell you that you will benefit from them in some way, so keep your doubts to yourself and don't make waves.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You don't lack for ideas or the confidence to use them but you should nevertheless keep them to yourself for a bit. The planets warn this is not a good time to share what you know.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
If your everyday routine has become a bit too predictable now is the time to do something about it. There will be some serious upheavals in the working pattern of your life over the next few days. Take full advantage of them.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Is it really possible that so many good things are happening and that so much is going your way at the moment? Yes, of course it is, and they will continue to go your way so long as you believe that you deserve it.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Relationships of all kinds are under favourable stars right now, so even if there have been a few harsh words of late you can, if you wish, patch things up and be friends again.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Do something special over the next 24 hours, something that those who see it never forget. That might not be as easy as it sounds, seeing as you have done so many special things in the past, but you'll think of something!

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You will work extremely hard today and for the rest of the week, not for cash or fame but because you want to prove that a goal you set yourself a while back is possible to reach. If you gain in other ways too – that's a bonus.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The cosmic powers that be are very much on your side at the moment. What does that mean in practical terms? It means you can and you should do something memorable.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your thoughts may be mainly on your work at the moment but you must not neglect matters closer to home. Cosmic activity in the domestic area of your chart means you must make time for those you love.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Travel and social activities are under excellent stars right now, so don't sit at home thinking about what amazing things might be going on some place else – find out for yourself.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

								2
			7	5			4	9
		6			4		7	
	6	4	2			3		
9				1		4		
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		8			9	2		1
						7	8	

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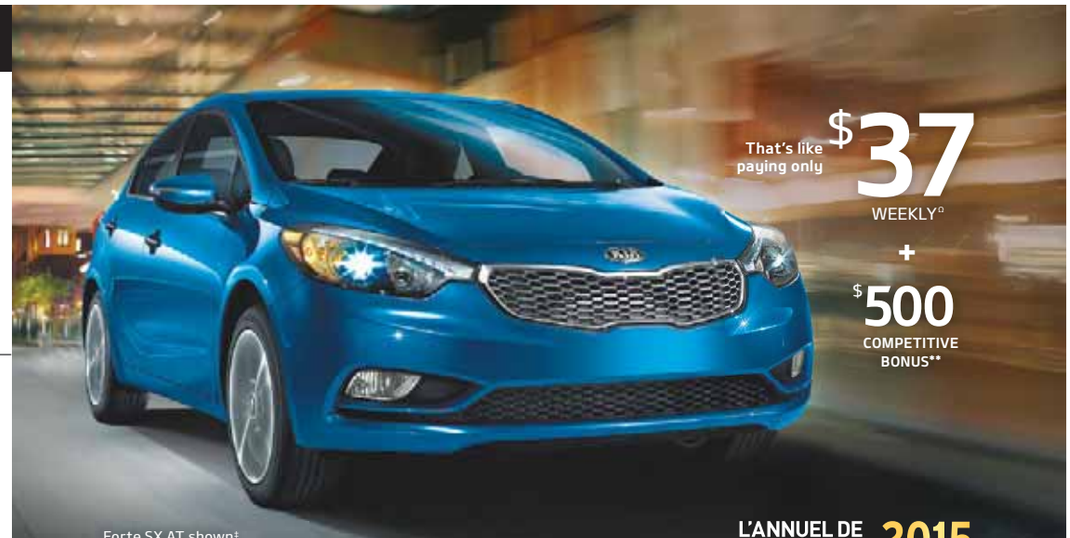
10,000 MORE KILOMETRES◊

+0% LEASE UP TO 60 MONTHS◊ **+$0 DOWN** PAYMENT

*On leasing offers only, on select models.



That's like paying only **$37** WEEKLY¤

+$500 COMPETITIVE BONUS**

Forte SX AT shown‡
Cash purchase price $28,364

CLEF D'OR "BEST IN CLASS" L'ANNUEL DE L'AUTOMOBILE **2015**

2015 FORTE LX MT

HWY / CITY 100KM^: 6.1L/8.8L

LEASE FROM **$160**¤ MONTHLY WITH **$0** DOWN AT **0%** APR FOR 60 MONTHS¤

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and an $800 lease credit*. Consumers can elect to take an additional 10,000 km allowance in lieu of the lease credit. Offer based on new 2015 Forte LX MT (FO541F) with a selling price of $17,564¤. Excludes HST.

2015 RIO 5-DOOR LX MT

CLEF D'OR "BEST IN CLASS" L'ANNUEL DE L'AUTOMOBILE 2015

That's like paying only **$34** WEEKLY¤

Rio5 SX with Navigation shown‡
Cash purchase price $24,464

HWY / CITY 100KM^: 6.3L/8.8L

LEASE FROM **$149**¤ MONTHLY WITH **$0** DOWN AT **0%** APR FOR 60 MONTHS¤

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and a $900 lease credit*. Consumers can elect to take an additional 11,250 km allowance in lieu of the lease credit. Offer based on new 2015 Rio5 LX MT (RO551F) with a selling price of $16,064¤. Excludes HST.

2015 SOUL 1.6L LX MT

BEST RESIDUAL VALUE IN ITS CLASS — 2015 alg RESIDUAL VALUE AWARD

That's like paying only **$40** WEEKLY¤

Soul SX Luxury shown‡
Cash purchase price $29,144

HWY / CITY 100KM^: 7.8L/9.9L

LEASE FROM **$173**¤ MONTHLY WITH **$0** DOWN AT **0.9%** APR FOR 60 MONTHS¤

Offer includes delivery, destination and fees. Offer based on new Soul 1.6L LX MT (SO551F) with a selling price of $18,744¤. Excludes HST.

2015 SORENTO FINAL CLEAROUT!

Sorento SX AT AWD 7-Seat shown‡
Cash purchase price $43,944 – HWY / CITY 100KM^: 8.7L/11.8L

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM **$22,994**∞

INCLUDES A CASH CREDIT OF **$5,850***

Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and $5,850 in cash credit*. Offer based on new 2015 Sorento LX AT (SR75BF) with at selling price of $28,844∞. Excludes HST.

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Offer(s) available on select new 2015 models through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who take delivery from April 1 to 30, 2015. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers are subject to change without notice. All pricing includes delivery and destination fees up to $1,715, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, environmental fee, and $100 A/C charge (where applicable). Excludes other taxes, licensing, registration, insurance, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), fuel-fill charges up to $100, and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other lease and financing options also available. ¤Lease payments must be made on a monthly or bi-weekly basis but cannot be made on a weekly basis. Weekly lease payments are for advertising purposes only. **Representative Leasing Example: Lease offer available on approved credit (OAC), on new 2015 Rio5 LX MT (RO551F)/2015 Forte LX MT (FO541F)/2015 Soul 1.6L LX MT (SO551F) with a selling price of $16,064/$17,564/$18,744 is based on monthly payments of $149/$160/$173 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,535/$1,535/$1,715, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, and A/C tax ($100, where applicable) for 60 months at 0%/0%/0.9% with a $0 down payment/equivalent trade, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Offer also includes a lease credit of $900/$800/$0. Total lease obligation is $8,912/$9,577/$10,385 with the option to purchase at the end of the term for $6,252/$7,187/$8,981. Lease has 16,000 km/yr allowance (other packages available and $0.12/km for excess kilometres). Other taxes, registration, insurance and licensing fees are excluded. Offer ends April 30, 2015. *Lease credit for 2015 Rio5 LX MT (RO551F)/2015 Forte LX MT (FO541F) is $900/$800 and available on lease offer only. Consumers can elect to take an additional 11,250 km/10,000 km allowance in lieu of the lease credit. Lease credit varies by model/trim and is deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. **$500 Competitive Bonus offer available on the retail purchase/lease of any new 2015 Forte, 2015 Forte Koup, 2015 Forte5, 2015 Rondo and 2015 Optima from a participating dealer upon proof of current ownership/lease of a select competitive cross-over vehicle. Competitive models include specific VW, Toyota, Nissan, Mazda, Hyundai, Honda, GM, Ford and Chrysler vehicles. Some conditions apply. See your dealer or kia.ca for complete details. ***Cash purchase price for the new 2015 Sorento LX AT (SR75BF) is $22,994 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,715, $5 OMVIC fee, $29 tire tax, A/C tax ($100, where applicable) and a cash credit of $5,850. Dealer may sell for less. Other taxes, registration, insurance and licensing fees are excluded. Offer ends April 30, 2015. •Cash purchase credit for 2015 Sorento LX AT (SR75BF) is $5,850 and available on cash purchase offer only. Cash purchase credit varies by model/trim and is deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. ^Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2015 Forte SX (FO748F)/2015 Rio5 SX with Navigation (RO759F)/2015 Soul SX Luxury (SO758E)/2015 Sorento SX V6 AWD (SR75XF) is $26,695/$22,795/$27,195/$42,095. ^Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2015 Rio LX+ ECO AT/2015 Forte 1.8L MPI 4-cyl AT/2015 Soul 2.0L GDI 4-cyl MT/2015 Sorento LX 2.4L GDI 4-cyl AT. These updated estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. 2015 Kia Rio and Forte awarded the Clef d'or Best in Class by L'Annuel de l'automobile 2015. Visit www.annuelauto.com for full details. 2015 Kia Soul awarded ALG Residual Value Award for highest resale value in its class. Based on ALG's residual value forecast for the 2015 model year. ALG is the industry benchmark for residual values and depreciation data, www.alg.com. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.